

Colfax Township, Weldon Township and Village of Thompsonville  
Community Joint Planning Commission  
14731 Thompson Avenue, Thompsonville, MI 49683  
Minutes – June 6, 2016 Regular Meeting

Sue Meredith declared the meeting open at 7:00 P.M. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call: JPC members Shelley Greene, Peg Minster, Irene Dunham Thayer, Sue Meredith, Chris Jones, Don Suchocki, Debra Franke, Pat Shaeffer and Mike Foust; Zoning Administrator Craig Meredith. Absent: Eugene Allen (unexcused).

Guest: Sally Bobek.

Agenda Additions/Corrections. Motion by Peg, Pat seconded to accept the agenda as presented. Ayes: all; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes. Motion by Debra, Pat seconded to approve the May 5 regular meeting minutes with correction to show Irene Dunham Thayer as being absent from that meeting. Ayes: all; motion carried.

Unfinished Business and Reports

A. Betsie River Campground. Sue had nothing new to report. Craig Meredith spoke with current owner Mark McGee who expects property to transfer in July. He plans an August 9 event and needs to go before the Weldon Township board in accordance with new ordinances.

B. Anderson Property. Shelley reported that Mark Eidelson said this wasn't an issue he could answer in an email and commented we are at the point where we should look at the Master Plan. She will contact Mark for meeting options.

C. Mobile Home Replacement Amendment. Tabled.

D. Blighted Properties. A Village plan is being developed. Sally Bobek asked if Craig sent a letter to Mr. Stevens. Craig said he has not but had Ron Hitesman review it who thought it looked good. He will send it now that he is back in the area. The JPC will be given a copy before Mr. Stevens appears before them.

E. Capital Improvements Plan. Peggy reported the committee needs to reschedule a master document work session.

F. Community Action Report. Sue said Art Jeanotte is willing to present on what developers look at for affordable housing. Sue will check on July and maybe start at 6:00 P.M. or 7:00 P.M. if agenda is short.

G. Cleanup Days. Sue said Weldon's went well and turnout seemed less than the past. Craig said some garbage was dropped off which was accepted anyway. Debra received 13 requests. She asked for clarification on who is expected to assist residents – JPC and Council and board members or just JPC? Shelley gave background on how this became a JPC initiative, not involving the Council or boards, but anyone can help. She is on target with how she has been managing it – extremely well. Debra said the possibility of combining both townships next year is being explored by Eugene Allen and Ron Hitesman. Colfax's day is June 11.

H. Zoning Administrator Report. Craig provided oral and written reports. Certified letters were sent to two property owners, one concerning shooting range requirements and the other about a structure on a parcel recorded as vacant. Ben Varney of Pyramid Services LLC, Syracuse, NY to attend a future JPC meeting; involves wireless site development and has a "target circle" for Verizon. Craig provided him the applicable ordinance information and gave him Shelley's number to get on the agenda. Sign legislation has changed which will affect the zoning ordinance. Ask Mark Eidelson about this. Debra said a pallet fence is on Brooklyn; Craig to investigate. Shelley said there is a structure and fence on CR669 that needs to be checked out.

I. Village/Township Reports. Debra reported Bruce Stanfest spoke about WiFi in the Village; upgrades needed in the fire department and ambulance for risk management; declined summer Sheriff's patrol; foreclosed property was declined; flowers have been planted; both mowers used for the cemetery have been down. Sue reported on Weldon's cleanup day; board declined the patrol; labor vs. employee status has been turned over to the attorney; no one attend the MTA conference in the UP; and the Day Use Park parking lot was sealed and striped. Shelley reported the Colfax board tabled a decision on the summer patrol; a blight complaint was received on a Karlin Road property; and bridge work has started on Nostwick Road.

J. Budget/Compensation Authorization. Sue passed out documents for review. Motion by Peggy, Debra seconded to approve the comp authorization and JPC expenses as presented. Ayes: all; motion carried.

New Business.

A. Fee Schedule Amendment. Shelley said there is nothing in the fee schedule for signs other than Foundation, Site Condo and Subdivision types. She proposed the Zoning Administrator handle signs and set the fee at \$40. If a sign is part of the site plan review, there would be no separate review or fee. There are many exempt signs but this would be for other situations. The ordinance has standards and requires a permit for non-exempt signs. No decision; revisit in July.

Correspondence. None.

Public Input. None.

Adjournment. Motion by Shelley, Peggy seconded to adjourn at 8:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Greene

Secretary

*Minutes are proposed until approved at the next meeting*