

**MINUTES SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING – JUNE 22, 2022**

Chairman Nick Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Barnes, Debbie Brown, John Joossens, Mike Glynn, and Veronnica Kenreich

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Feirick and Jon Tidey

OTHERS PRESENT: Zoning Administrator Mark Davis, Recording Secretary Wendy Fitzgerald, and members of the public

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Debbie Brown motioned to approve the agenda.

Mike Glynn seconded.

Motion passed by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MAY 25, 2022**

Debbie Brown motioned to approve the minutes with the correction of Mark Davis' name.

John Joossens seconded.

Motion passed by voice vote

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ZBA REPORT**

Nick Barnes was unable to attend the ZBA meeting and asked Wendy Fitzgerald to update the board on the outcome of their June 21, 2022 meeting.

**BUILDING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Given by Mark Davis.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Members discussed the master plan and reviewed the first two chapters. Nick Barnes feels the first two chapters are still relevant and would not need many adjustments outside of updating

stats and figures. Mike Glynn explained the purpose of the master plan and encouraged discussion amongst the members. He points out that the master plan is a policy that addresses issues of the area but does not address how to get things done about the issues it is meant to be a guide. John Jooseens would like to see stats updated and agrees most of the plan is a sound one however he questions how the Smart Growth Theory relates to Silver Creek and Cass County. He feels some of the verbiage used may be too broad to be applied to Silver Creek given its unique characteristics. Debbie Brown feels the master plan is a good guide and agrees that the theory does not entirely work for rural areas like Silver Creek. She feels the lakes are points of interest but need to be preserved. She questions how walkable urban areas could be incorporated into a mainly rural area with busy lakes, while she likes the idea of walking to the store, she just feels it is too tight around the lakes and notes that bike paths are dangerous. Veronnica Kenrich questions the authenticity of caring for the lakes and would like to see the master plan address more environmental issues. She would also like to see more forecasting to anticipate the future needs of the area, as she feels development is trending more than farming. Nick Barnes would like to continue the discussion on chapter 3 at the next meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Nick Barnes notes there is a public hearing in July regarding the Silver Creek Township ordinance 155.030 (B) (3) and the idea to add a tier into the ordinance that would address lots with over four acres but less than five acres.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

#### **MEMBER COMMENT:**

None

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

JULY 27, 2022

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Debbie Brown motioned to adjourn.

John Joossens seconded.

All members present approved, and no members denied

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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Recording Secretary, Wendy Fitzgerald

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Secretary, Debbie Brown