

MINUTES SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MAY 22, 2024

Chairman Nick Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. All present recited The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nick Barnes, Ben Schilling, Veronnica Kenreich, John Tidey, Mike Glynn, and Tom Feirick.

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Joossens

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Davis and members of the public.

APPROVAL OF THE ADGENDA FOR MAY 22, 2024-Veronnica Kenreich motioned to approve the agenda for May 22, 2024. John Tidey seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 24, 2024-Veronnica Kenreich motioned to approve the minutes of April 24, 2024. Ben Schilling seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: Veronnica Kenreich informed the board that they have received a Master Plan Proposal from McKenna for the Master Plan.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Mike Sherwood, 31395 South Street, Dowagiac, Mi 49047 commented on a short-term rental that is causing issues in the neighborhood. Sandra and Mark Paulson of 50079 South Street, Dowagiac, Mi 49047 commented about the same that rental property is causing issues with trespass, parking, noise, and occupancy issues.

BUILDING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: Updates given by mark Davis. Davis asked the board to ask the township attorney for clarification on what are the acceptable appearance guidelines for “barndominiums” in a residential district.

ZBA REPORT: No report given

NEW BUSINESS: Master Plan

Veronnica Kenreich discussed the fact that she has forwarded the proposed Master Plan for Silver Creek Township that was just received by McKenna to the other members of the planning commission. No other proposals have yet been received. Nick Barnes and Veronnica Kenreich both stated that they have been in touch with Matthew Newton, the Cass County Administrators and were told that they could wait for the published date of the RFP from other contractors to decide if they were going to go with the county Master Plan (McKenna) or have one done for Silver Creek separately. Veronnica Kenreich said that she would check in with the other contractors to see if they were going to submit Master Plans for Silver Creek.

New Business: Short Term Rentals

Chairman Nick Barnes said that he emailed the township attorney about the short-term rental draft that he submitted to her for review. He had not heard from the township attorney after a few weeks and did check back in with them and they are still reviewing the draft. Mike Glynn said that they should review the “Good Neighbor Policy” that was submitted to the board last fall.

OLD BUSINESS: none

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS: none

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: none

NEXT MEETING JUNE 26, 2024

ADJORNMENT: Ben Schilling motioned to adjourn. Tim Feirick seconded. All members present approved, and no members denied.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Veronnica Kenreich, Secretary