

WORTH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MAY 3, 2023, AT 6:30 P.M.

6903 S. LAKESHORE RD., LEXINGTON, MI 48450

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Members Present: John Cuppen, Stan Lessard, Byron Wilson, Boni Lillibridge. Members Absent: Barbara Millsap(excused)

Also: Three persons in audience

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Lessard, supported by Cuppen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- April 5, 2023- Motion by Lessard, supported by Lillibridge to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- April 17, 2023- Motion by Lessard, supported by Cuppen to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE: Ms. Lillibridge presented several emails from Adam Young of Wade Trim Associates, Inc. concerning the professional planning services for a Master Plan update. The emails were in regard to the scope of work and cost estimate to be performed by Wade Trim after Mr. Young had met with the Planning Commission on April 17, 2023, to discuss the Master Plan. The letter on April 24, 2023, stated that the work on the Master Plan would be accomplished in two Phases. Phase 1 Scope of Work cost estimate would be \$3,000.00 and would include Planning Enabling Act Compliance, Census Data Updates and Map Updates. Phase 2 Scope of Work cost estimate would be \$4,500.00 and would include Infrastructure and Existing Land Use Chapter Updates, Online Citizen Survey, Updates to Planning Recommendations and Final Master Plan Report, Adoption and Hard Copies.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only): None

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Wind Energy-** Announced were changes to Draft #2 proposed ordinance changing the maximum height of wind energy towers from 500 feet to 300 feet. An addition was made to the section concerning the performance guarantee. The ordinance now states that a \$1,000,000. Surety bond shall be for each individual wind turbine. Also, an addition was made to the proposed ordinance stating that the property owner is ultimately responsible for the removal of the tower should it be decommissioned and should ensure that the wind energy company has a performance guarantee in the contract.

MOTION: Motion made by Lessard to send Draft #3 of the Utility-Grid Wind Energy System as amended to the Board of Trustees, seconded by Cuppen. Roll Call: Lessard-yes, Lillibridge-yes, Cuppen-yes, Wilson-yes, Millsap-absent. Motion carried.

- **Master Plan-** Chairman Wilson proposed having Wade Trim add a front cover to the Master Plan book with 4 photos showing a representation of Worth Township. A photo of the Township Hall which would represent government, a photo of Huron Tool which would represent industry, the Dollar General which represents commerce and then the Water Tower.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Planning Commission Budget for FY 2024-** The Planning Commission will request an increase to the budget due to costs involved for the update to the Master Plan. For Planning and Special Projects-\$7,000.00, for Attorney Fees- \$2,000.00 and a \$10.00 per member per meeting increase in wages. The Township is having their budget meeting on June 21, 2023, and anyone can attend.

TRUSTEE REPORTS-

- Mr. Cuppen brought up the subject of Roadside Memorials. He asked if there was anything that could be done about them being put up and left for years. Mr. Cuppen said that he will call MDOT and get their input.
- Mr. Lessard questioned why some people can hold two positions on different boards but was told that he and Jon Rundles can only hold one position. He questioned if this is selective or if it is law or if it is a township bylaw.
- Ms. Lillibridge- Nothing to report.
- Mr. Wilson reported that he will be contacting Norm Stephens concerning Wind and Solar Power studies. Mr. Stephens has worked with several Townships in assisting writing ordinances.

PUBLIC COMMENT-

Question- I thought the Planning Commission had 7 members? Mr. Wilson replied that the number of board members had been changed to 5.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Lessard, supported by Cuppen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Boni Lillibridge, Secretary

Worth Township Planning Commission