

ROBINSON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

February 25, 2020

The regular meeting of the Robinson Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:30 PM at the Robinson Township Hall.

Present

Shawn Martinie
Travis Vugteveen
Bill Maschewske
George Schippers
Lydia Brown
Steve Young

Absent

Rich Sibley

Also present were Zoning Administrator Brian Werschem, Township Attorney Ron Bultje, Supervisor Kathy Kuck, and three members of the public. The attendance sheet is not attached since it contained no names.

A motion was made by Travis Vugteveen and seconded by George Schippers to approve the agenda as revised.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

A motion was made by Travis Vugteveen and seconded by George Schippers to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2019 Planning Commission meeting as written.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

A motion was made by George Schippers and seconded by Lydia Brown to approve the December 17, 2019 minutes from the Planning Commission joint meeting with the Township Board with the correction of changing “and” to “an” on page two.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

Non-Commission Member Inquiries – None

Reports and Communications

Travis Vugteveen reported the following from the February 12, 2020 Township Board meeting.

1. Fred VanDussen of Crockery Township voiced concerns about the Robinson Township Board not approving no-wake zones for the Grand River. Mr. VanDussen was informed of temporary no-wake legislation to address the high water situation.

2. An accessory structure with no principal structure was given 30 days to obtain well and septic permits and 60 days to obtain a building permit for a principle building or the accessory structure must be demolished.
3. A partial withdrawal of land from the Farmland Preservation Act was approved regarding the removal of the home from the rest of the farm.
4. Township officer compensation was reviewed and remained unchanged.
5. The Township wage schedule was reviewed.
6. The 2020 meeting schedule of the Township Board was approved.
7. A budget workshop was scheduled for March 13, 2020 and March 26, 2020.
8. The road brining schedule was approved for 3 applications.
9. Township Cleanup Day was scheduled for May 9, 2020.
10. Township Board appointments were made.
11. The Ottawa County Road Commission estimate for re-graveling two miles of roads was accepted.
12. The fire department was approved to purchase four sets of turn out gear.
13. The Township received the Berreth Award for communication on the PFAS issue.

Announcements – None

Old Business

One of the applicants, Gerald Feenstra, was present to provide an update on the Evergreen Site Condominium project. The project is currently tabled. Mr. Feenstra stated that the well data was delayed due to wet conditions on the site that limited access for well drilling trucks. He noted the last well is now complete and the data has been submitted to Prein and Newhof, who will then submit the data for the five wells to the Ottawa County Health Department. The Health Department wanted tests into both the shallow and deep aquifers. All wells will be in the deep aquifer.

The issue remains tabled.

Chairperson Martinie – Are there going to be any changes to the plan?

Gerald Feenstra – No.

At 8:50 PM., the Dykstra Class B Earth Change renewal request was considered.

Zoning Administrator Werschem – Reported the renewal application was submitted October 2, 2019, however, violations existed. Compliance has now been achieved by opening and closing cells. He also noted that the 5 year EGLE permit has expired and has been renewed. Aerial photographs were shown of the site confirming compliance with the new open Cells. Cell 1A has been closed, Cells 1B and 1C have been placed in interim reclamation, and Cells 2A, 2B, and 3A are currently open.

A motion was made by George Schippers and seconded by Travis Vugteveen to recommend to the Township Board renewal of the Jack Dykstra Emerald Lakes Class B Earth Change permit based on the review of the monitoring materials submitted by the applicant and the fact that the project does not impair the health, safety, or general welfare of the Township residents. All previous conditions continue to apply.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

New Business

A motion was made by Lydia Brown and seconded by Travis Vugteveen to designate May 26, 2020, August 25, 2020, November 24, 2020, and February 23, 2021 as regular meeting dates for the Robinson Township Planning Commission.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

The draft Annual Report and Budget report was revised to correct the regular meeting dates, correct a typographical error, and assign a new draft date of February 25, 2020.

Chairperson Martinie – Noted the proposed budget was coordinated with Bonnie Hayward and Kathy Kuck to reflect the cost of updating the Master Land Use Plan.

A motion was made by George Schippers and seconded by Steve Young to approve the 2019 – 2020 Annual Report and the 2020 – 2021 Budget of the Planning Commission with draft date of February 25, 2020.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

The annual election of officers was held as required.

A motion was made by Travis Vugteveen and seconded by George Schippers to re-elect the current slate of Planning Commission officers (Shawn Martinie Chairperson, Steve Young Vice-Chairperson, and Bill Maschewske Secretary).

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

A motion was made by George Schippers and seconded by Lydia Brown to pay Planning Commission salaries for the month of February 2020 (one meeting, one member absent).

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

Any and All Other Business

Supervisor Kuck distributed draft Master Land Use Plan update Request for Proposal documents to the Chairperson and the Zoning Administrator for review and comment.

Zoning Administrator Werschem – Noted that the Class B Earth Change permit for Top Grade Excavating is up for renewal soon.

Supervisor Kuck – Stated that Spring Meadow Nursery was denied a sock well water extraction permit from EGLE. She had a meeting with Ottawa County and the County is supporting the EGLE decision.

The groundwater maps for Ottawa County were discussed briefly and noted that we still do not have a map showing where the deep aquifer recharge areas are in Robinson Township. This will be requested from Paul Sachs.

A motion was made by George Schippers and seconded by Travis Vugteveen to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting at 8:33 PM.

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Maschewske, Secretary
Robinson Township Planning Commission

Attachment: None.