

**MARION TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR ELECTRONIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Lloyd (township hall); Sandy Donovan (home); Bob Harvey (township hall); Tammy Beal (home); Les Andersen (home); and Dan Lowe (home)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Durbin

OTHERS PRESENT: Phil Westmoreland, Spicer; Dave Hamann, Zoning Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

Bob Harvey called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

The board members introduced themselves.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mitch Zajac, the new County Commission for District 6, introduced himself. He provided an update on vaccines in Livingston County and said there is a special meeting scheduled for February 18. His email is mzajac@livgov.com and his phone number is on the website.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item #12—Assessing was added to the agenda. Les Andersen motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Dan Lowe seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Scott Lloyd motioned to approve the consent agenda. Les Andersen seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

SCHROEDER BODY SHOP

Dave Hamann updated the board on the status of this project. The revised site plan has been submitted for the February 23 Planning Commission meeting and has been forwarded to the engineer and planner for review. They are still working with the City of Howell on the sewer issue. The easement agreement still needs to be finalized. The township has issued a temporary zoning compliance and the county has issued a temporary certificate of occupancy.

VERN BROCKWAY/LUCY ROAD DEVELOPMENT PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

Dave Hamann said the project at 1388 Lucy Road has been reviewed by the Planning Commission, the planner and engineer, and they are working closely with the county agencies. There are no open PC or consultant issues. Dan Lowe asked about a landscape plan, and location of the septic system. Dave Hamann said he thought they submitted one. Jim Anderson, Planning Commission member, said he doesn't recall seeing it. The PC did talk about landscaping on the western border. The site plan does reflect the landscape variances granted by the ZBA. It

will be included as part of the final site plan review. Jim Anderson said they discussed moving the septic to the west side of the building. Dan Lowe said it has to be moved so there's no driving on it.

Les Andersen motioned to grant preliminary site plan approval provided that the septic tank is moved. Tammy Beal seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

SUNRIDGE PHASE III (TAMARACK PLACE) PUD AGREEMENT

Bob Hanvey said there is a traffic count document that calls for a left-turn lane at Mason and Peavy. Manny Kianicky from S.R. Jacobson was present to discuss the traffic impact study and crash reports at Mason and Peavy, and Kedde and D-19. He discussed specifics of the reports and feels the increased traffic will be indiscernible at peak hours after full build out from what it is now. The delays from Peavy Road turning on to Mason will not be improved by putting in a turn lane because the delays occur while waiting for a gap in the traffic. In addition, the five-year crash study on westbound traffic on Mason Road shows there is no pattern of rear-end crashes. Kedde and D-19 also show indiscernible increases at peak hours. Mr. Kianicky said the conditions are outlined in the PUD agreement of 3/17/2013 and feels that they are in compliance with the conditions of the agreement. Bob Hanvey said the agreement also says the traffic study will be submitted with application for final site plan so we're a bit ahead of ourselves. He said the attorney is reviewing and will provide his opinion. Mr. Hanvey would like to postpone until the next meeting and have a special closed session with the attorney prior to that. Mr. Kianicky has no objection to that.

Bob Hanvey motioned to postpone action on the PUD agreement until the February 25, 2021 meeting. Tammy Beal seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

SUNRIDGE PHASE III (TAMARACK PLACE) PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN REVIEW

Mike West from Allen Edwin said they have had two productive sessions with the PC and consultants and have made changes to reflect those discussions. He showed the original plan and the proposed plan. They eliminated some internal street intersections which increased open space and reduced overall street length. The proposed site plan is consistent with the original plan: setbacks, lot size, number of units, same access. They have added about 3 ½ acres of open space. He said they were able to get more lots that have direct access to open space and 82% of the open space is usable. They also added an amenity which is a system of trails throughout the open space. They did supplemental landscaping and buffering.

Dan Lowe asked if they know how deep they are going to run the sanitary sewer. Mr. West said those will be detailed on the final site plan. Mr. Lowe said there is a large spring due south of the gate and he is concerned about that. Manny said they are aware of the wet conditions and the engineer has been looking at that.

Dan Lowe said the bridge will be closed in the new future until 2023 and that presents a big problem for traffic. Mr. Kianicky said they are aware of that as well.

Phil Westmoreland said everything for the sanitary sewer connects at Alstott. There are some areas with low cover, and basement service to some lots may be challenging. They are adding fill in the southwest corner.

Scott Lloyd and Dan Lowe would like to postpone granting preliminary approval until the PUD agreement is approved. Mr. West said they would like to know the township's position before they incur additional expenses.

Scott Lloyd motioned to postpone this item until the next board meeting. Les Andersen seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

SEXTON CONTRACT/CEMETERY

Les Andersen motioned to adopt a resolution to approve the updated Marion Township Grave and Service Charges as presented and authorize the clerk and supervisor to sign the contract. Sandy Donovan seconded. Roll call vote: Lowe, Beal, Hanvey, Andersen, Donovan—all yes; Lloyd—abstained. **Resolution passed 5-0 (1 abstention.)**

TOWNSHIP LAWYER

Bob Harvey said he would like to schedule a closed session as soon as possible with the board members and attorney working on the Sunridge Phase III PUD agreement. The meeting will be held virtually. Greg Durbin cannot attend before Wednesday, and Dan Lowe said he would prefer either first thing in the morning or at the end of the day. Bob Harvey will inform the board members when the date/time is selected.

BOARD OF REVIEW ALTERNATE

Bob Harvey motioned to appoint Duane Stokes as an alternate Board of Review member for a two-year term. Sandy Donovan seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN AMENDMENT

Since the plan was put in this week's board packet, Tammy Beal reported that due to a complaint filed with MIOSHA, the township has to amend its COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan to reflect changes in item F. Employees and any visitors to the office have to fill out a short survey card that will be kept by the clerk's office. Dan Lowe asked how long it will be in effect; Tammy Beal said she is not certain. She held a training session for staff today. Once in-person meetings are allowed, board and committee members will have to be trained as well. Les Andersen motioned to adopt the amended plan. Sandy Donovan seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

Tammy Beal said she would provide a clean copy in the next board packet.

2021-22 ROADS/HERALD LETTER

Included in the packet was a letter from resident Andy Herald with thoughts on the road improvements. He said he agrees that small section of Burkhart should be done in conjunction with the LCRC plans in Howell Township. He believes that Peavy and Triangle Lake Roads are the two roads in the worst shape. He disagrees with spending a consideration amount of money on Cedar Lake Road. He cited traffic counts for Schafer Road, and they are higher than Cedar Lake Road.

Les Andersen asked if it is an appropriate time to pick a couple roads to present to the LCRC. Bob Harvey said he would like to see estimates from the LCRC. Les Andersen asked Phil Westmoreland about Triangle Lake Road at Coon Lake Road, and would that be a road that could be wedged and chip sealed? Mr. Westmoreland said yes, but the pavement on the north end is pretty flimsy; he would have to look at it again. Tammy Beal asked Phil Westmoreland if he's been down Schafer Road; he said not recently. Tammy Beal said it's gotten really bad and she doesn't want to lose that road. Mr. Westmoreland said he could go out with Jodie from the LCRC and take a look. Dan Lowe said he wanted to make it clear that he didn't say there wasn't any traffic, just not a lot of Marion Township traffic.

Phil Westmoreland said the old Girl Scout Camp may be developed and the township should probably talk with Putnam Township for more information on timing. He wouldn't want to spend a lot of money on the road and then have a lot of construction traffic. He said he will discuss the schedule with Putnam and the developer. Dave Hamann said John Enos has a planner working with DeKroub on that project. Tammy Beal said there are a pair of eagles that nest over there and asked if he would make sure they know that.

Les Andersen motioned to get estimates from the Livingston County Road Commission for Burkhart, Triangle Lake Road, and Schafer Road. Tammy Beal seconded. Discussion: Dan Lowe said something is going to have to be done with the gravel part of Peavy Road if the bridge closes. Les Andersen said he agrees. Mr. Lowe said they may need a temporary signal at D-19 if the bridge is closed. Mr. Westmoreland said that should be discussed with the LCRC, but temporary signals can easily be used. Getting the temporary signal to function properly with the signal on Wright Road could be challenging. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

ASSESSING

Tammy Beal said she would like to request that the assessors not have to do field work until the weather breaks. Bob Hanvey said there are properties that need to be visited prior to Board of Review. He also asked if that means the zoning administrator shouldn't be doing field work. Tammy Beal said the assistant assessor is outside for longer periods of time than the zoning administrator. Bob Hanvey said she is driving from property to property and is not strictly outside and the Board of Review inspections need to be done; we're not doing the mass 20% inspections right now.

CORRESPONDENCE & UPDATES

Bob Hanvey said the attorneys filed motions to discharge in the HVM case; one is a quiet title charge. The opposing attorney has 14 days to respond.

Dan Lowe asked for an update on the engine brake signs. Bob Hanvey said it hasn't been done yet.

Les Andersen asked Phil Westmoreland what the cost would be for him to prepare a bid packet for the parking lot and can language be included that the township can refuse any or all bids if they're too high. Mr. Westmoreland said that is standard language in every bid. As far as a cost for the bid packet, he would need to have more discussions on what the township wants done.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Andy Herald said about a year ago Jim Anderson was talking about farmland open space preservation and asked the status. Bob Hanvey said Dave Hamann and Bruce Powelson were working on the master plan today. Jim Anderson said they postponed work on this until the COVID situation changes.

Jim Anderson said he agrees that it's just a phone call to get the engine brake signs ordered and it should be done before spring. In addition, he was walking around Cranbrook Estates and their roads, which are public, are in bad shape. He suggested that maybe the engineer could take a look at them. Bob Hanvey suggested having the HOA do a survey to see if they're interested in an SAD. Sandy Donovan said they could also look at only using one garbage company. Mr. Anderson said they don't have a functioning HOA. Bob Hanvey said residents can request an SAD without having an HOA. Mr. Anderson also said they have a drainage ditch that runs from the park to Cranbrook Lake and it hasn't been cleaned out for 20-25 years and they do pay a drainage assessment.

ADJOURNMENT

Les Andersen motioned to adjourn at 8:57 pm. Scott Lloyd seconded. No objections were heard. **Motion carried.**

Submitted by: S. Longstreet

Tammy L. Beal, Township Clerk Date

Robert W. Hanvey, Township Supervisor Date