

**PLANNING COMMISSION
ERIE TOWNSHIP
ERIE, MICHIGAN
Regular Meeting
October 19, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bill Jacobs called to order the Regular Meeting of the Erie Township Planning Commission on October 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Township office, Erie Road, Erie, Michigan.

2. ROLL CALL

Bill Jacobs	Present
Dave Cousino	Present
Dr. Larry Guinn	Present
Dan Taylor	Present
Paul Perry	Present
Robert Schwartz	Present
Manny Evola	Absent-excused

Also present: Mike Demski and Recording Secretary, Kristine Crammond.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Robert Schwartz made a motion to approve the Agenda. Dan Taylor seconded. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Paul Perry made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2021 Planning Commission meeting. Paul Perry seconded. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Budget Report

The budget report was reviewed. Bill Jacobs stated the budget is in good shape.

- Dave Cousino made a motion to approve the budget dated 09/30/2021 as presented and place on file. Dr. Larry Guinn seconded. Motion carried.

B. Public Comment

Diane LaPlante – 1324 Sterns Road asked about the landscaping warranty at the solar field. Mike Demski stated he would give an update at the end of the meeting.

Gary Wilmoth stated there will be an informational meeting at the Township on November 23, 2021 regarding Solar Farms. We need to have facts.

Christine Stofka – 1008 Rauch Road asked Gary Wilmoth if there could be another speaker that evening with an opposing view of Solar Farms.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Final Site Plan Review-3371 Erie Road-FisH20 (Tabled August Meeting)

FisH20-Michigan Operations Manager, David Breneman and FisH20 partner Brian Bourassa were in attendance.

Expansion of fish farm business and loading dock. Fish H2O has purchased another business that is related. The property is currently zoned Agricultural. Need to determine with this expansion if the property will need to be re-zoned to Commercial.

David Breneman stated live farm raised fish are brought from Saginaw and placed into ponds on the property. Some fish are brought in dead, (Fresh) fully refrigerated. To remain AG, 50% of product should be live fish placed in the ponds, generated on the land.

According to the Land Use Additional Information letter from FisH20 dated October 8, 2021, the revenue split between the live fish (ponding) and the Fresh fish (frozen) business shows that 61% Live fish and 39% Fresh fish.

- Paul Perry made a motion to consider fresh fish business located in Saginaw Michigan as a continuation of the Aquaculture business of FisH20 located at 3371 Erie Road. They shall be required to keep fresh fish business at 49% or less of revenue. An annual report is required by the third week in January. They are to submit the annual report to the Planning Commission Chairman. Dave Cousino seconded the motion. Vote

Dr. Guinn-Yes Dave Cousino - Yes Paul Perry – Yes Bill Jacobs – Yes Dan Taylor - Yes

- Paul Perry made a motion to approve the zoning permit application submitted with the site plan by FisH20 dated 10/19/2021 with attached documents dated 08/03/21. This will include a loading dock with a roof, partial enclosure (3 sides) not to be used for warehousing. Dan Taylor seconded. Motion carried. Vote

Dr. Guinn-Yes Dave Cousino – Yes Paul Perry – Yes Bill Jacobs – Yes Dan Taylor - Yes

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Downtown Revitalization Update

Dan Taylor stated Mannik & Smith has submitted the TAP Grant request. It will be March 2022 before the Township knows anything. The grant is to beautify the down town area.

Dan Taylor stated the Township Board has been very helpful. If the grant is approved it will be at least two years before the work would begin. The Bike path is the main focus of the grant.

Mike Demski stated the landscaping warranty is in place at the Solar Farm on Dixie highway. Currently 13% of the plants need to be replaced.

12 Arborvitae

63 Spruce trees

4 Dogwood trees

Total 79 plants.

- Dan Taylor made a motion to replace the dead spruce trees with Arborvitae. Robert Schwartz seconded. Motion carried.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Theresa Pobee-Mensah – 2147 E. Erie Road stated she loves Erie and would like to get involved. She stated the Township protects the citizens.

Diane LaPlante – 1324 Sterns Road inquired as to the amount the Township has paid to Mannik & Smith for the work on the Downtown revitalization. Dan Taylor stated the amount was around 28,000 for their work on the downtown revitalization.

10. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Dr. Larry Guinn stated the Happy Ending Historical Marker is gone on Dixie Highway. Dr. Guinn asked about two lots near the state line on Suder Ave. It appears there is a home being built.

11. MEETING DATES

Park Commission	Thursday, November 11, 2021	7pm
Township Board	Tuesday, November 9, 2021	7pm
Planning Commission	Tuesday, November 15, 2021	7pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

Paul Perry made a motion to adjourn. Robert Schwartz seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Kristine Crammond
Recording Secretary