

**PLANNING COMMISSION
ERIE TOWNSHIP
ERIE, MICHIGAN
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Bill Jacobs called to order the Regular Meeting of the Erie Township Planning Commission on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:02 pm at the Erie Township Hall, 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	Present

Also present: Mike Demski and Recording Secretary, Kim Cousino.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Paul Perry moved supported by Robert Schwartz to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. MINUTES APPROVAL

Dr. Guinn moved, supported by Danny Taylor to approve the January 16, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented, with a correction to attendance; Paul Perry was present. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comment: Michael Grodi, Township Supervisor, thanked the members for continuing their terms on the committee and stated he will not regularly attend their meetings nor interrupt their conduct of business.

B. Communications: None

C. Budget Report: Manny Evola moved supported by Robert Schwartz to approve and place on file the budget report. Motion carried.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Proposed Zoning Request for Parcel 05-034-005, 05-034-007-00, 05-034-008-00 – North of Lost Peninsula Marina

William and Nancy Tabbert have applied to rezone parcels 05-034-005, 05-034-007-00, 05-034-008-00 from R-3 to commercial waterfront, to be used for storing boats. Discussion was held.

Manny Evola moved supported by Paul Perry to schedule a public hearing for the re-zoning requests of parcels 05-034-005, 05-034-007-00, 05-034-008-00; to be held at the next meeting on March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

B. Master Plan – Last updated November 13, 2018

Discussion held over the current master plan and the importance of having an updated plan. Bill Jacobs recommended that a sub-committee be created to review the master plan and bring any revisions and updates to the planning committee as a whole.

Manny Evola moved supported by Paul Perry to form a sub-committee to review the master plan. Motion carried.

Sub-committee members: Paul Perry – chair, Manny Evola, Danny Taylor. Alternate – Dave Cousino

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Allied Waste Systems – Site Plan Change – Borrow Pond Construction; parcels 05-105-004-00 and 05-032-043-00

Mike Demski presented the request from Allied Waste Systems to dig a pond on parcels 05-105-004-00 and 05-032-043-00, the dirt will be used for operations of the landfill to cover current cells, not for expansion. Jeremy Heyerly, an environmental consultant for Allied Waste Systems was present. Discussion was held.

Paul Perry moved supported by Danny Taylor to approve the zoning permit application as presented by Allied Waste Systems, contingent on approval of applicable county permits. Motion carried, majority in favor; Dr. Guinn opposed.

b. Renewable Energy – New Legislation

Mike Demski supplied commissioners with a comparison of Erie Township's renewable energy zoning ordinance and the State's current regulations; the rules are currently being written by legislature and there is a circulating petition to bring this question to a

vote of the people. Mike Demski stated this is informational only, there is nothing for the planning commission to act on at this time.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Diane La Plante stated that she heard new homes will be required to have a sprinkler system installed, Mike Demski responded that he is not sure if or how the state will update the building code in that regard.

Dave Cousino asked for confirmation on the minimum lot size requirement to build on a residential lot; it is one acre.

Dr. Guinn stated he will not be at the March meeting.

10. MEETING DATES

Township Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Paul Perry moved supported by Danny Taylor to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino
Recording Secretary