

CITY OF HASTINGS
DRAFT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 6, 2017

Members present: Brehm, Benner, Tossava, Mansfield, Cusack, Maurer, Bowers, McLean, Hatfield.

Members absent: None.

Other staff present: Czarnecki, Harvey.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Hatfield.

Roll call was taken by Hatfield.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hatfield explained that he was temporarily afflicted with a neuro-muscular disorder that periodically impaired his ability to speak clearly, and asked that Maurer therefore act as chair for tonight's meeting.

Maurer asked for comments regarding the draft agenda for tonight's meeting. No comments were forwarded. Motion by Tossava, second by Bowers to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as submitted.

Motion carried.

Maurer asked for comment regarding the draft minutes of the October 2, 2017 meeting of the Hastings Planning Commission, the draft minutes of the October 04, 2017 meeting of the Rutland Township Planning Commission, the Communication regarding the October 17, 2017 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the draft minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting of the Downtown Development Authority, the notice of the cancellation of the October 26, 2017 meeting of the Local Development Finance Authority, the draft minutes of the October 16, 2017 meeting of the Joint Planning Alliance, and the draft minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting of the Joint Planning Commission. No comment was forwarded.

Motion by Hatfield, second by McLean to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2017 meeting of the Hastings Planning Commission, and to receive and place on file the draft minutes of the October 04, 2017 meeting of the Rutland Township Planning Commission, the Communication regarding the October 17, 2017 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the draft minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting of the Downtown Development Authority, the notice of the cancellation

of the October 26, 2017 meeting of the Local Development Finance Authority, the draft minutes of the October 16, 2017 meeting of the Joint Planning Alliance, and the draft minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting of the Joint Planning Commission.

Motion carried.

Maurer stated that agenda item 6.A., further consideration of a request from Silver Cloud Management for a special use permit and approval of a related site plan for a foster care home for 7 or more adults to be located at 315 North Taffee Drive, was not yet ready for consideration, and asked that the matter be tabled again at tonight's meeting of the Planning Commission.

Motion by Cusack, second by Hatfield, to table further consideration of a request from Silver Cloud Management for a special use permit and approval of a related site plan for a foster care home for 7 or more adults to be located at 315 North Taffee Drive until the December meeting of the Planning Commission.

In favor: Brehm, Benner, Tossava, Mansfield, Cusack, Maurer, Bowers, McLean, Hatfield.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Maurer asked Mansfield to report on the activities of the JPA and JPC. Mansfield stated that both the JPC and the JPA had met in October, and that the minutes for these meetings were included in the packet of information for tonight's meeting. Mansfield stated that the JPA and the JPC had discussed the status of the utility extension projects to serve the new Hastings Fiberglass Facility. Mansfield reported that work on these utility extensions had slowed, and that connection of the new HFP facility to the extensions may not occur until after the first of the year. Mansfield stated that this would then result in removal of USED A No. 3 from escrow in 2018, conditional transfer of the HFP site at the beginning 2019, and the City's assumption of ownership of the utility lines in 2019. Mansfield stated that the City and the Township were working together on these issues. Mansfield stated that the JPC had also discussed the status of extension of the Riverwalk trail to Wal-mart, and construction of sidewalks along M-37/M-43.

Maurer asked Czarnecki to explain the status of the work tasks identified for completion by the Planning Commission in 2017. Czarnecki stated that there was nothing new to report. Hatfield asked if the members of the Planning Commission had any new tasks to add to the list. No suggestions were forwarded.

Maurer asked Czarnecki if there was any report from the subcommittee working on an update of the City Comprehensive Community Plan. Czarnecki stated that there was nothing new to report at this time, but that the subcommittee would be meeting this coming Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

Maurer asked for a report on the possible amendments to the Code requested by the Code Compliance Officer. Czarnecki explained that there were a number proposed ordinances included in the packet of information for tonight's meeting. Czarnecki stated that several were related to the keeping of animals in the City. Czarnecki explained that there were also draft ordinances amending the Code requirements related to parking as well as temporary structures. Czarnecki suggested that the Planning Commission may wish to consider setting public hearings to solicit comment regarding the draft ordinances applying to parking and temporary structures, and continue conversation regarding the ordinances regulating the keeping of animals at future meetings of the Planning Commission.

Bowers questioned if the draft ordinance related to the keeping of animals would allow the keeping of pet swine outdoors or indoors. McLean questioned if the keeping of chickens would be allowed under the proposed ordinance. McLean stated that a number of progressive communities now allowed the keeping of chickens, and asked that the staff research the codes in place in other communities. Hatfield suggested that further consideration of the draft ordinances regulating the keeping of animals be delayed until a future meeting of the Planning Commission. Hatfield asked that the staff research the codes in place in other communities regarding the keeping of animals, and report back to the Planning Commission at a future meeting.

Motion by Brehm, second by Cusack to set a public hearing to solicit comment regarding the draft ordinances to amend the regulations applying to parking and temporary structures for the December 4, 2017 meeting of the Planning Commission.

In favor: Brehm, Benner, Tossava, Mansfield, Cusack, Maurer, Bowers, McLean, Hatfield.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Hatfield introduced discussion regarding New Business, and asked Czarnecki to comment on a letter in tonight's packet of information from Jennie Eickhoff. Czarnecki noted that Eickhoff was present in the audience. Hatfield asked where Eickhoff lived. Eickhoff stated that she lived at 836 East Bond Street.

Eickhoff stated that she had experienced difficulty finding the ordinances in the City Code that applied to the keeping of animals. Eickhoff stated that if she had known that she could only keep 3 dogs in the City of Hastings, she would not have move to the City. Eickhoff stated that she wished

to make a change in the Code to allow the keeping of 3 dogs instead of 4 for anyone who rescues animals. Eickhoff suggested that a permit could be required for anyone wishing to keep more than 3 dogs. Eickhoff stated that the City could charge a fee for the permit, and that the funds could be used for maintenance of the Dog Park or to fund a trap-neuter-release program for feral cats.

Tossava questioned if Eickhoff's dogs made a lot of noise. Tossava stated that he could hear them barking in a video created by Eickhoff. Eickhoff stated that in the video the dogs were barking at the mailman, and that many dogs barked at the mailman. Hatfield stated that the Planning Commission would take Eickhoff's requests into consideration as the considered amendment to the codes applying to the keeping of animals.

Hatfield asked for additional comments from the public. No comments were forwarded.

Hatfield asked for comments from the members of the Planning Commission.

McLean recognized and thanked Eickhoff for being willing to be a part of the solution, and not just bringing a complaint to the Planning Commission.

Hatfield asked for additional comments from the members of the Planning Commission. No comments were forwarded.

Motion by Tossava, second by Brehm to adjourn at 7:29 p.m.

Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Jeff Mansfield
Secretary