

**Charter Township of Filer
Minutes of the Planning Commission Regular Meeting
Held on September 20, 2016**

Present: Jennifer Williams, Roger Dittmer, Richard Mark, Shirley Ball, Karen Kolk and Christa Johnson

Absent: Linda Rogers

Also present: Lynn Kooyers, Zoning Administrator and Terry Walker, Township Supervisor

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Mark

Motion by Williams, seconded by Johnson to approve the August 16, 2016 Public Hearing Minutes as presented. All in favor. M/C

Motion by Williams, seconded by Johnson to approve the August 16, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All in favor. M/C

2017– 2022 Capital Improvement Plan Requests

The presented 2017 – 2022 Capital Improvement Plan Synopsis was reviewed. It was agreed that only the six new project requests would be discussed:

- 1-Township Sidewalk Repairs - \$60,000.00 estimate.
- 2-New pavilion for Oak Hill Park, picnic tables & grills - \$8,000.00 estimate
- 3-Nelson St. Office Improvements, parking area and handicap ramp -\$15,000.00 estimate.
- 4-Paint Fire Station & replace windows-\$7,000.00 estimate.
- 5-Water Department mechanical valve turner - \$3,000.00 - \$5,000.00 estimate.
- 6-Water Department three new well house meters - \$2,000 per/meter estimate.

Discussion amongst the Commission members led to the consensus that the estimate for the new Oak Hill Park Pavilion was too low, and should be increased to \$12,000.00.

Motion by Williams, seconded by Dittmer to approve the presented Capital Improvement Plan Synopsis with an increase in the estimate for the Oak Hill Park Pavilion project to \$12,000.00. All in favor. M/C

Manistee Trail Committee Update

Karen Kolk reported on the September 12th Manistee Trail Committee meeting that she attended. Three priority projects were selected to be submitted during the 2017 grant request process.

- Pine River Loop
- Connecting The Betsie Valley Trail through Copemish to Kaleva
- Extending Zimmerman Trail to the North, past M-22.

Snowmobile trails can be utilized during the summer months by non-motorized traffic. The Snowbird group can provide good trail maps and share their ideas for summer usage.

U.S. 31 Corridor Analysis & Opportunities Map

Chairman Mark led a discussion of the 10 Wade Trim map items he proposed for discussion at the August Planning Commission meeting. The following discussion ensued.

- Designated snowmobile route through Filer Township to connect with established trails.

- Bike routes through Filer Township would include Fox Farm Rd., Red Apple Rd., Cherry Rd., 12th St. and the truck route into Filer City.

Chairman Mark stated that he would prepare a written summary of tonight's discussion of the U.S. 31 Corridor Map for Supervisor Walker to take along to the 9/28/16 Corridor Implementation Meeting that he will be attending.

Reports

Zoning Administrator's report and Township Board Meeting Minutes were received. Zoning Administrator Kooyers reported that Ace Hardware has been sold to Gill Roy's Hardware. They will be erecting their new store sign in the near future. Kooyers also reported that the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians recently demolished two of their buildings located on US-31. She stated that she has not received any enquiries for a future use of the K-Mart store that is closing in December.

Zoning Administrator Kooyers commented that Filer's Sign Regulations-Amendments will be reviewed by the Manistee County Planning Commission during their September 22nd meeting. Upon receiving the County's comments, the Sign Amendments will be passed on to the Filer Township Board for their consideration.

Supervisor Walker reported that the Township will be acquiring four parcels of land from A.C. Geenan Associates. Three of these parcels are located to the South of the Kmart Plaza, and the fourth parcel is located on Merkey Rd. behind the Pizza Hut parking lot.

Supervisor Walker also informed the Commission that the second Sewer Assessment District Public Hearing will be held on October 12th at 7pm at the Township Hall.

Clerk Ball reported that the Fausz Lot Split Application was approved by the Township Board.

Public Comment

A local realtor questioned the definition of religious institution. He did not find this definition in the Chapter 31 Zoning Ordinance.

Other Business

Johnson spoke to the Commission about her interest in a bicycle safe passing ordinance. A copy of the City of Grand Rapids Ordinance was distributed along with information about a proposed ordinance for the City of Kalamazoo that is currently being worked on.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Williams to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Dittmer, Secretary
Charter Township of Filer Planning Commission

