

BURT TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

January 11, 2024

Burt Township Hall

The Burt Township Planning Commission was called to order by Allen Kozlowski on January 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Burt Township Hall.

PLANNING COMMITTEE ATTENDEES: Allen Kozlowski, Gene Hodulik, Paul Janness, Matt Landon. Jay Jontz, excused.

ALSO ATTENDING IN PERSON: Ken Lane of Beckett and Raeder, Jim Larson, Zoning Administrator, David and Ann Klebba, Anna McGlashen , Local Policy Manager for Tip of the Mitt, Watershed Council, and Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Allen Kozlowski

DECLARATION OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Landon, supported by Janness to approve the November 9, 2023, minutes. Motion approved.

REPORTS: Township Board: Hodulik

1. Jim Michaud hired for west side transfer station
2. Yearly fire report for east side of township was presented
3. DNR west side lakefront property may be auctioned off in the spring
4. The requested FOIA for EGLE testing on the Kinney property did not include the August , 2023, results. A letter has been sent inviting EGLE to the March 7, 2024, township board meeting
5. 2024 road improvements will be the paving of Maple Bay Road; tar, chip & seal of Chickagami and Cedar Point Drives. The county will upgrade West Burt Lake Road from Riggsville Road to Indian Road
6. New ZBA member is Larry Kemper from the west side of the lake
7. Board will transfer \$100,000 to Michigan Class which provides higher interest rates for Michigan local governments
8. Attorney McKeller representing the Jacobs spoke at the township board meeting asking for time for submitting a special use permit as the first step to resolve the issue of their business in a residentially zoned parcel. Supervisor asked when the Jacobs would remove the trucks to another property. Board approved moving ahead with court action

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Hodulik

Two appeals from Friday, November 17, 2023, were approved. Elizabeth Carr, West Burt Lake Road to tear down the old cabin to build a new home, and Carol Richardson, Peace Trail, to rebuild on the partial footprint of the existing home.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR – Larson

Five zoning permits already this year. The main topic has been campers and travel trailers wishing to park for several months without a 6 month permit, and no well and no septic.

PLANNING CONSULTANT – Ken Lane of Beckett & Raeder

The topic of short term rentals has been heating up in many townships and being discussed at the state level as well. Thus far, short term rentals have not caused any problems in Burt Township.

Campers/motor homes have become more permanent in several townships by building decks, landscaping, and walkways.

Lane will clarify the definitions and requirements for site plans and plot plans which are confusing in existing zoning ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

HIGH SPEED INTERNET—Kozlowski

Nothing new on the big project. Kozlowski was approached to select the location for the service on his home. The ROBIN grant money stipulates the project must be completed by January, 2026.

MASTER PLAN: The Master Plan expires in July of 2024.

Chapters 1 and 2 were reviewed. A paragraph describing accomplishments over the last 5 years will be added as well as the latest demographic/census data will be updated to be current. It was again agreed that this will be an update and not a rewrite. Chapters 3 and 4 will be reviewed at our next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Anna McGlashen, Local Policy Manager for Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council:

She presented an overview of the current status for septic tank inspections. Based on the information presented, Anna agreed to come back for the May 9 meeting to present this topic in more detail. By that time the state legislature may have committed to an approach on this topic as Michigan is the only state that does not have a statewide septic system law. There is interest in relating the inspections to the selling of a home and/or inspections every 5 years. She also offered to present an update on the green belt as she knows the latest data for Burt Lake.

Planning Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule: Dates for 2024 were approved by resolution: 01-2024 Motion to approve the dates and times made by Hodulik and supported by Landon. Roll Call: Hodulik-yes, Janness-yes, Landon-yes, Kozlowski-yes, Jontz-absent. Motion approved.

Planning Commission 2024 Election of Officers: Discussion was to keep the existing officers. Motion by Kozlowski, supported by Landon, to elect Jay Jontz, Chairman; Paul Janness, Vice Chairman; Gene Hodulik, Secretary; Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary. Roll Call: Hodulik, Janness, Landon, Kozlowski- all yes, Jontz-absent. Motion approved.

Planning Commission Annual Report 2023: Motion by Landon, supported by Janness to accept the annual report to be forwarded to the Township Board of Trustees. Motion approved. Report approved by the Planning Commission January 11, 2024.

BRAINSTORM – No comments at this meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS –Comments regarding the status of the Jacobs business in a residential zoned area were given.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Made by Landon, supported by Janness. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Burt Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary