



Minutes

THOMAS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Thomas Township Public Safety Building, 8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609

August 17, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

John Bintz called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present in addition to Mr. Bintz were: Ruth, McDonald, Diane LaMountain, Rod Iamurri and Rick Lorentzen. Also present were Dan Sika, Director of Community Development, Susan Coggin, Planning Assistant/Code Enforcement Officer.

Members Absent: Chris Thompson and Dale Halm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Mrs. McDonald, seconded by Mrs. LaMountain to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Mrs. LaMountain, seconded by Mrs. McDonald to approve the minutes of July 20, 2011 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Hearings – None.

6. Presentations – None.

7. Sign Board of Appeals – None.

8. Old Business

Mr. Sika updated the Planning Commission members on the Gratiot Road streetlight project. Mr. Sika stated the DDA awarded the bids for the purchase and installation of the streetlights at their July 26, 2011 meeting. J. Ranck Electric of Mt. Pleasant will be installing the bases and electrical work for the project and it is anticipated that the work will begin as soon as we receive the final permit from MDOT. The project includes a total of ninety-eight (98) streetlights with two (2) streetlights held in reserve for replacements.

9. New Business

a. Amendment to the Future Land Use Map – Solar Technology Overlay District.

Mr. Sika stated that in March, 2010, the Planning Commission amended the Future Land Use Map regarding the Solar Technology Overlay District. At that time, a preliminary study by the Township Engineer was reviewed and it became apparent that the sanitary sewer capacity at the time was limited. At the July, 2011 Planning Commission meeting, a site plan was approved to begin construction of the Solar Technology Park. Included in the construction will be a new sanitary sewer lift station. Due to the new lift station, it is proposed to expand the Solar Technology Overlay District and expand the Future Land Use Map to reflect the increased capacity in the sanitary sewer system in the area.

Mr. Sika further stated that in accordance with MCL 125.3841, letters of intent to amend the Future Land Use Map were sent to the neighboring local governments, utilities and any other related entity that had requested this notification.

The proposed Future Land Use Map will be scheduled for a public hearing at the September 21, 2011 Planning Commission meeting.

10. Adjournment:

Motion by Mrs. McDonald, seconded by Mrs. LaMountain to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next meeting date is Wednesday, ***September 21, 2011.***

Respectfully submitted by Susan Coggin, Planning Assistant/Code Enforcement Officer