

MINUTES

DRAFT

**THOMAS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
THOMAS TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
8215 SHIELDS DRIVE, SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021, 7 O’CLOCK P.M.**

Electronic remote access via teleconference per PA 267 of 1976/PA 228 of 2020 and Local Emergency Declaration dated April 8, 2021 made available.

Members Physically Present: R. Iamurri, P. Lynch, D. Sommers, D. Bird, K. Beam, and S. Yockey
Members Present via “Zoom”: None
Members Absent: J. Curry
Others Physically Present: D. Sika, Community Development Director
C. Watt, Planning Assistant/Code Enforcement Officer
J. Corriveau, Parks Director

Mr. Iamurri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Lynch, supported by Mr. Bird, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE	6 YEAS	0 NAYS	1 ABSENT	MOTION CARRIED
	YEAS: Sommers, Bird, Iamurri, Lynch, Yockey, Beam			
	NAYS: None			
	ABSENT: Curry			

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Sommers, supported by Mr. Yockey to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting.

VOTE 6 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

YEAS: Iamurri, Lynch, Beam, Yockey, Sommers, Bird

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Curry

Presentation:

A. Thomas Township Nature Preserve viewing platform and new entrance.

Mr. Corriveau, Parks Director was present to discuss the Site Plan for the new entrance, new walkway on east side of the building, deck and ramp, fishing ramp on north side of building, and viewing platform at the Thomas Township Nature Center. All of these projects will happen over some years, with the walkway taking place this year as well as the viewing platform. A new entrance is planned to the west of the current entrance which is expected to make the turn in and out of the facility a safer one. A deck is being planned off the back of the building as well as a gravel pathway. There is also a viewing tower planned for enhanced views of nesting birds in the area.

Motion by Mr. Yockey, supported by Mr. Lynch to approve the site plan for all of the items as explained at the Thomas Township Nature Preserve with the following contingencies:

- A copy of the MDOT driveway permit will be needed.
- A soil erosion permit.
- A copy of any correspondence received from EGLE.
- A minimum 4” diameter conduit run beneath the new drive approach from Gratiot.

- Hand holes installed on either side of drive for access to underground electric cables.
- DPW will supply hand holes and conduit.
- City of Saginaw watermain to be shown on plan.

VOTE 6 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

YEAS: Beam, Yockey, Sommers, Bird, Iamurri, Lynch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Curry

Old Business:

A. Amend Walch sand removal start and end date

Mr. Sika noted that at the May 19th Planning Commission meeting it had been mentioned that the sand removal process at the Walch property had actually started that day, which was five days sooner than originally approved. Mr. Walch was contacted and did state that the process had begun on that day. He was informed that the Special use Permit approval was for 120 days so the new date for completion would be five days earlier than originally approved which would be September 15, 2021. At this time, if the Planning Commission is in agreement, the amended dates need to be approved.

Motion by Mr. Yockey, supported by Ms. Beam to amend the dates of the Special Use Permit at 8910 Geddes Road for the sand removal process to start May 19, 2021 and to end on September 15, 2021.

VOTE 6 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

YEAS: Bird, lamurri, Lynch, Beam, Yockey, Sommers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Curry

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Sommers, supported by Mr. Yockey to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Motion carried.

