
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

PLANNING COMMISSION



KELLE TOBOLIC, Chairperson
3255 – 122nd Avenue, Ste 102
Human Services Building
Allegan, Michigan 49010-1350
email: kelle623@sbcglobal.net

MINUTES

Meeting Date: January 10, 2011
Meeting Time: 1:30 P.M.
Location: County Services Complex at Dumont Lake
Human Services Building, Karl Zimmerman Room

1. Call to Order.

The regular monthly meeting of the Allegan County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson Kelle Tobolic at 1:31 P.M.

2. Roll Call.

Members present: Kelle Tobolic, Marv Voss, John Bouterse, Jackie DeZwaan, Gale Dugan, Terry Burns, Dawn Buist, Jim Ramey, Tom Vogeler, and Fritz Spreitzer

Absent: Bill Sage

Also present were: Ronda Foreman, Recording Secretary; Valdis Kalnins, LIS Director; Phil Badra, Ganges Township Planning Commission Secretary; Jim Birkes, Ganges Township

3. Approval of Agenda.

Tobolic requested one change to the agenda under item 15.; Ganges Township is represented by *DeZwaan*, not *Buist*. A motion was made by Buist, seconded by Dugan to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried by everyone present.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2010.

A motion was made by Buist, seconded by Dugan to approve the December 13, 2010 minutes as presented and emailed. The motion carried by everyone present.

5. Approval of Expenditures as of January 4, 2011.

Voss stated two expenditure reports are included in the agenda packets; 2010 year-end and the 2011 beginning reports. The 2010 report shows the Commission was paid their 4th quarter per diems totaling \$931 and travel reimbursements of \$319. Also, the annual subscription for Planning & Zoning News monthly magazine was paid in the amount of \$360. Next on the 2011 report, some funds were shifted between line items and should have no effect on the PC's operations.

A motion was made by Voss, seconded by Spreitzer to approve the expenditures as of January 4, 2010. The motion carried by everyone present.

6. Public Participation.

Two public participants are in attendance for the Ganges Township Ordinance Amendment under item 15.

7. Discussion and Presentation Items:

a. County Planning Commission Update – Sarro

None.

b. County Development / Parks Commission / Recreation & Tourism – Ricco

None.

c. Economic Development Commission Advisory Committee Discussion – Ricco

None.

8. Commission Business:

Vacant seats: Trowbridge Township and Watson Township representative (Pardee); Allegan Township, City of Allegan, Monterey Township representative (Spreitzer)

The vacant seats have been filled; Fritz Spreitzer was appointed to Pardee’s vacant seat and will represent the City of Allegan and Allegan Township. The newest Board of Commissioner Bill Sage will fill the BOC seat and represent Trowbridge Township, Watson Township, and Monterey Township.

9. Continuing Education:

Tobolic stated the discussion of who will be attending the New Economy 101 workshop on January 31 and if the Commission will approve to pay for their registration fee of \$55/per person was postponed from last month’s meeting. DeZwaan stated she will be attending although Ganges Township will be paying her fee; Voss will also attend and will be reimbursed by Cheshire Township. Buist will be out of town and unable to attend. Vogeler, Bouterse, Tobolic, Spreitzer, and Burns would all like to attend and request their registration fees be paid by the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Buist, seconded by Spreitzer to approve the \$55/per person registration fee be paid for Tom Vogeler, John Bouterse, Kelle Tobolic, Fritz Spreitzer, and Terry Burns to all attend the 2011 Planning Workshop: New Economy 101 on Monday, January 31, 2011. The motion carried.

10. Communications:

None.

11. Final Actions Received:

Allegan Township – Adopted Master Plan

The Allegan Township Planning Commission has reviewed and updated the Township Master Plan. On December 6, 2010, the Township Board approved and adopted the plan. This item is on the agenda for informational purposes only.

12. Received for Notice:

None.

13. Received for Information:

State of Michigan – Department of Agriculture

Landowners who have completed contracts with the State of Michigan under the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act of 1974.

14. Received for Review:

None.

15. Ganges Township Ordinance Amendment – DeZwaan

The entire Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance was reviewed and updated. Three public hearings were held with the last one on December 7, 2010. The ordinance amendment was approved by the Local Planning Commission on December 7, 2010.

Reasons for action taken:

- The current Zoning Ordinance was difficult to use with references to many amendments that had been added over the years.
- It was noncompliant with the Zoning Enabling Act in some areas, such as adult foster care homes and child care centers.
- It was felt that applicants and the Planning Commission needed a more user friendly and updated document.

Ayes 6; Nays 0; Absent 1; Abstaining 0

DeZwaan stated the township has been working on this project for three years and have completed all of the requirements. The entire Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance was reviewed and updated to make it more concise and user friendly; the old ordinance had become cumbersome and unorganized over the years. A motion was made by DeZwaan, seconded by Buist to approve the ordinance amendment as recommended by the Local Planning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes 10; Nays 0; Absent 1; Abstaining 0

Standing Committee Reports:

16. L.I.S. – Valdis Kalnins, Director

None.

17. County Master Plan Committee – Vogeler

Discuss draft responses to comments from the Board of Commissioners

Kalnins displayed on the overhead screen the Board of Commissioner’s comments that were in the resolution authorizing the distribution of the draft master plan. After some discussion Kalnins stated he will make the noted revisions and will bring them back to the February meeting for the Commission’s approval. Also at the next meeting the Commission will review and approve the proposed responses from other comments received and approve the distribution of the public meeting notice.

18. Work Program Committee – Tobolic

Planning Commission Member Attendance – Workshop 101, January 31, 2011

The workshop attendance was discussed under item 9. Continuing Education.

19. Dept. of Public Works – Rininger

None.

20. Region 8 – Burns

Burns had nothing to report at this time; their next meeting is at the end of this month.

21. Resource Recovery – Hinz

Dugan stated last week at the Allegan County Solid Waste Planning Committee meeting a proposed waste reduction site was discussed for Trowbridge Township next to the golf course on M-89 and would be privately owned and operated. Waste removal companies will bring the recyclables to them where it will be

sorted at a projected 200 tons per day. It will be a county-wide facility where a public drop-off area will also be available for recycling materials.

22. Board of Commissioners – Burns

Burns stated the Board of Commissioners had their organizational meeting last Thursday where they elected Mark DeYoung as the Chairman and Tom Jessup as the Vice Chairman. They also had a presentation on the proposed jail revisions; the schematics were available but no cost estimates yet.

23. Education – Buist

Buist stated the schools are all waiting for the new governor to announce his plans for funding the educational system.

24. Discussion and Presentation Items:

None.

25. Public Participation:

No comment.

26. Round Table:

Voss reports Cheshire Township is coming in line and getting their own Planning Commission.

27. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ramey, seconded by Burns to adjourn the meeting at 2:34 P.M. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The next regular meeting of the Allegan County Planning Commission will be held on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 1:30 P.M., in the Human Services Building, County Services Complex, 3255 – 122nd Avenue, Allegan, Michigan.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ronda Foreman, Recording Secretary for the Allegan County Planning Commission.