

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF SPARTA PLANNING COMMISSION

Monday, August 4, 2014, 7 PM

Village Hall West, Sparta, Michigan

Present: Chairman William Hayes; Village President Leonard Meyer; Commissioners Dwayne Pride, Brenda Braybrook, Hudson Miller, Becky Rogers, and David Chambliss

Also present Village Manager Julius Suchy

Absent: Commissioner Aaron Wiley, Village Council Member Gary Moody

1) / 2) Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Hayes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Roll Call: Formal roll call was taken. Members present are noted above.

4) Minutes

Accept Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2014 with changes regarding addition of time enter/exit closed session as well as adding review written legal opinion for purpose of closed session: Motion by Pride, second by Meyer, to approve the Minutes. Motion carried 7 to 0.

5) Additions or Corrections to the Agenda: None.

6) Public Comment on Agenda Items: None.

7) Communications: None.

8) Public Hearing: None.

9) Unfinished Business: None

10) New Business

A. Introduction of new Village Manager – Village Manager Suchy introduced himself and provided some of his background regarding planning, site plan review and previous positions he has held. Suchy provided an update on Bedford Falls and the current development that is occurring and provided an update on General Formulations closure of S. Union St.

B. Update from Planning Commission to Manager re: Ongoing Projects – Members indicated that it had been 10-15 years since ordinances have been updated completely and that a number of them don't have updated zoning ordinance books. Suchy indicated that he will provide updated copies for all members.

C. Capital Improvement Plan Discussion – Suchy discussed a new capital improvement plan that will be implemented next year that will involve the Planning Commission's review and recommendation to Village Council. Suchy will provide more information prior to the capital improvement plan process starting.

D. Ordinance Discussion – Suchy discussed issues with the sign ordinance, specifically temporary signs and parking ordinance which does not take into consideration virtual offices and the new reliance on technology that reduces the amount of employees and parking spaces required. Suchy would like to do a complete update of the sign ordinance. Discussion was held regarding who would complete the update, Village staff or hiring the work out to a firm. Suchy indicated that he has had good experiences working with firms and that they work for the Planning Commission, so it is still the Planning Commission in charge of the process.

11) Public Comment: None

12) Commission Comment: Commissioners stated they were excited at some of the ordinance work and approach that the Village Manager will take in regards to planning activities.

13) Adjournment: Motion by Chambliss, second by Pride, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM; motion carried 7 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Julius Suchy
Acting Secretary