



Clinton County, MI  
6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI  
Proposed Planning Commission Minutes from October 4, 2021 meeting

The regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Tammy Ashley at 7:00 pm.

**Attendance:** Present: Tammy Ashley, Dave Sell, Doug Marek, Dave Ginther, Tom Mitchell. Nicole Fickes was present representing Ms. Townsend.

**Absent:** Chuck Nelson (Medical leave), Julie Townsend (Medical leave)

**Public Comment:** Nicole Fickes Gave updates on Lake Victoria Evaluation, It was noted that there are high E-coli readings and further investigations continue. The Drain commissioner recommends starting a lake management board.

It was also noted that the Township has been asked to consider a Cannabis ordinance. There was discussion between all members on the issue. There was concern expressed about damaging the townships "rural character" considering the rural character scored very high as important to residents on the 2020 master plan. There were concerns also based on possible increased crime and traffic, potential damage or contamination to the watershed and property value depreciation.

It was noted that the because the Township does not have local zoning the County has oversight and the Township is subject to whatever position is taken by the County; meaning if the Township makes no ordinance, then it is completely at the mercy of the County zoning (if Township were to opt in). If Township were to opt out then it does not matter what the county decides, the Township would still retain the right to deny, and could revisit as necessary.

**Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda by Mr. Ginther. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mitchell, All in favor (Nelson Absent), Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Ms. Ashley to approve the August 30, 2021 meeting minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ginther. All in favor (Nelson Absent). Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Master Plan** – Mr. Mitchell gave updates on his edits and corrections submitted this week. Christopher Khorey was present and acknowledged the changes. It was noted to add prior contributors to be credited in the document. Mr. Khorey noted that some 2020 census data is now available and will be included in his final edit. Motion to call Master Plan a finalized draft for approval, and prep for public comment by Mr. Mitchell. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Marek, All in favor (Nelson Absent), Motion carried.
- **Internet workgroup update**– Mr. Sell gave updates that grant application continues to be reviewed. NTIA has reached out twice for further data and application clarification, which

Mr. Sell feels is a promising sign. The NTIA released details of all applications. Sell feels based on the other applications that Victor Township's application is in the top 10 percent of all applications in the country. It was noted that Michigan State University did have an application for a very large grant, as a partner with Merit Moonshot program. <https://www.merit.edu/community/moonshot/> - It was noted that while we remain hopeful for the NTIA grant, Stellar Broadband is currently preparing contingency plans for other possible grants should the Township be denied.

- **Zoning Parcel follow-up-** Discussion was had that the Commission feels Victor Township is not represented on the Clinton County Zoning board as the Township has no members, while other Townships have 2 representatives.

#### **New Business:**

- **Parks and Recreation plan-** Ms. Ashley presented Victor Township Parks and Rec plan 2017-2022. The Commission feels that is a very solid plan, and will serve as a great draft to update and bring current. Group has decided to set the Parks and Recreation plan as the main focus of the October meeting.
- **Zoning Parcel\_PC-39-21 SLU** – Discussion included the application was thorough and complete, Mr. Sell and Ms. Ashley inspected the proposed site noting it is in good repair with good landscaping and upkeep. Mr. Ginther had some positive discussion with the business owner on his plans. Motion to Support Zoning Parcel\_PC-39-21 SLU by Mr. Sell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mitchell. All in favor (Nelson Absent), Motion carried.

**Extended Public/Board Comment** – There was more discussion on Cannabis ordinance. It was determined that the commission request more legal information from the board, Several Planning Commissioners intend to inspect existing outdoor and indoor facilities both around the immediate area and in Wise Township.

#### **Action Items:**

- Ms. Ashley and Mr. Sell will make an effort to tour Cannabis facilities
- Mr. Sell will keep PC apprised of any updates from the broadband grant application

Motion by Mr. Sell to adjourn at 7:58 pm. Supported by Mr. Marek. All in favor. Motion carried.



Dave Sell, Secretary