



Clinton County, MI  
6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI  
Official Planning Commission Minutes from March 7, 2022 meeting

The regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Chuck Nelson at 7:02 pm.

**Attendance:** Present: Chuck Nelson, Tammy Ashley, Dave Sell, Dave Ginther, Tom Mitchell, Julie Townsend, Doug Marek

**Absent:** None

**Public Comment:** Nicole Fickes commented that she attended the Tri-county planning commission and upon hearing they're disaster preparedness plan she was made aware that Victor is considered a high flood risk, Also Ms. Fickes did not think that Victor has any disaster preparedness plans in the event of natural disaster, power outage, or other large scale community problem.

**Agenda:** Mr. Ginther Motioned to add "ARPA funds allocation" to Agenda. Ms. Ashley motioned to approve agenda with addition. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Marek, All in favor, Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Ashley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ginther, All in favor, Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Master Plan** – There was discussion that the Township board was not receptive to repair the existing decorative fence at Stilson cemetery. The PC clarifies that "restoration" could be an incorrect term, rather the fence should be replaced with a new product, and the decorative detail retro-fitted or worked into the new build to maintain the Character of the current fence. Ultimately it was determined that PC need to get a concrete quote for fence as described herein, and provide that to Board for reconsideration. There was also discussion that the other fencing (side and rear) at Stilson is in disrepair and needs to be replaced, however there are large trees in the footprint of a new fence, and these trees need to be felled, or considered in any RFP for the Stilson fencing. It was noted that perhaps an arborist should be retained to evaluate the trees at our cemeteries, potentially preventing future damages. Lastly it was noted the Roadway/pathing through Stilson is in disrepair and needs to be addressed.
- **Internet workgroup update**– Mr. Sell gave updates that NTIA grant application has been denied. Stellar broadband continues to move forward on first phase of fiber deployment. There is another possible grant coming down the pike. (CMIC 4.0) these grants have been funded in the range of 10-13 million in the past. Mr. Sell will watch for an announcement on application period for this grant going live. Mr. Sell shared his fears that Stellar/Daystarr/other providers may Bring fiber up through the proposed (phase 1) areas, major throughfares, and Lake Victoria, but not out to the remainder of residents in low density areas. Mr. Sell Stresses that what Victor needs to do is pursue funding to pay for or subsidize the middle mile/last mile areas of Victor Township. It was noted that the Victor/Bath area was highlighted by Guidehouse and Clinton County as a very important and high need "bridge", and there would be discussion to that end at an

upcoming Clinton County broadband meeting. Mr. Sell will attend the meeting to gain more insight into County plans and possible next steps for Victor. Mr. Sell plans to re-convene the Internet work group after this meeting.

- **Marijuana Issues** – Ms. Townsend updated that legal counsel felt the township should not directly send out a survey, rather have a consultant send one out to insulate the Township. Ms. Townsend will update the PC next meeting if there are any developments.
- **Parks and Rec Plan** – Dr. Nelson gave update the plan is to include survey in summer tax bill.

#### **New Business:**

- **ARPA funds allocation** – Mr. Nelson reported the Township should receive approximately \$360,000.00. Mr. Ginther advocated to use some funds for the needed Stilson Cemetery improvements previously discussed. Mr. Sell advocated to earmark some portion of funds for broadband development/subsidies. Ms. Townsend advocated to use bulk of funds to repair Alward Road. Mr. Nelson pointed out that Chandler Road was also in very poor shape. Ms. Ashley noted that the Curve at Price and Chandler was in need of shoulder development. There is an upcoming Road commission meeting Ms. Townsend will report back to the PC developments from that meeting.
- **Commissioner Comments** – Ms. Ashley commented that she felt many recommendations leave the PC and are sent up to the board, but these recommendations are rarely followed or often tabled. Ms. Ashley specifically mentioned Cemetery recommendations the PC provided a year ago that seem to have just now been discussed at the board level.

#### **Action Items:**

- Mr. Sell will Attend the County Broadband meeting.
- Mr. Sell will monitor potential CMIC 4.0 grant announcement
- Ms. Townsend will attend Road Commission meeting and report back.

Motion by Ms. Ashley to adjourn at 7:52 pm. Supported by Mr. Sell. All in favor. Motion carried.



Dave Sell,  
Secretary