

Mansfield Township Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes – 2/28/2023

DRAFT

Meeting opened at 5pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Mike Carey.

Attendees: Mike Carey, Russ Bauwens, Ryan Warmboe, Jacob Trulock, and John Gilner.

Other Attendees: John Leutz, Jeff Jackson, Jeff Tushoski, Mike & Laura Finney.

Mike Carey motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 1/19/23 and Ryan Warmboe seconded; the motion passed.

Mike Carey motioned to approve the 2/28/23 meeting agenda and John Gilner seconded; the motion passed.

A number of concerns were raised about the proposed blight ordinance. Ryan Warmboe wanted to make sure this wouldn't turn into a witch hunt for junk on private property. John Leutz provided clarity on how the process is only initiated through neighborhood complaints.

It was also discussed that certain structures and vehicles, while in a dilapidated state, can have historic or nostalgic significance and thus merit certain protections.

John Gilner and Ryan Warmboe agreed to work on the blight ordinance together and craft a document that better reflects the goals of Mansfield Township. The planning commission will have opportunity to reach consensus on the ordinance before it goes to a public hearing.

During public comment, Mike Carey raised a desire for a noise ordinance amendment that addresses barking dogs. Other members of the Lake Ellen community were present to support this idea.

Mike also brought up the desire to adopt a light ordinance that will address light pollution from external lighting at night.

The idea of a hotel tax was discussed again. This topic was tabled again as we are currently focused on other issues.

John Gilner raised the idea of adopting another ordinance which states: Any fines not paid by landowners in violation of any township ordinance will be added to their next property tax bill.

Mike Carey also brought up an idea that the township should be able to hold onto a small percentage of the insurance money paid out when a home burns down. This would help ensure that the site is cleaned up properly and that the owner doesn't just take off with all the insurance money, leaving the township responsible for an expensive clean-up project.

A date was not set for the next planning commission meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm after being motioned by Ryan Warmboe and seconded by John Gilner.