

Mansfield Township Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes – 5/07/2024

Meeting opened at 4:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation by Mike Carey.

Attendees: Russ Bauwens, Mike Carey, John Gilner, Jeff Tushoski, Pam Minerick

Absent: Ryan Warmboe.

John Gilner asked that the minutes from the 1/22/24 meeting be amended to include that the discussion on VRBO's will be included in future discussions. Russ Bauwens will make the change.

John Gilner motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 1/22/24 as amended and Mike Carey seconded; the motion passed.

Jeff Tushoski motioned to approve the 5/07/24 meeting agenda and Mike Carey seconded; the motion passed.

Pam Minerick gave the Zoning Report. Pam Minerick stated that there will be a Public Meeting on June 11, at 4:00 PM for a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing. Pam also discussed the property requesting a fire number. Jeff Tushoski was informed that no additional Zoning Books are available due to cost consideration to the Township. He could download the current Zoning Book from the Mansfield Township Website.

Russ Bauwens stated talked with Robb Anderson from GEI and informed him we would probably start in January 2025 the review of the changes to the Township Master Plan. Our current plan was sufficient to cover any grant proposals the Township might be able to apply for. Robb Anderson from GEI will be kept informed as the process moves forward.

Russ Bauwens handed out a Planning Commission Bylaws draft he found going through the historical records of the Planning Commission. After discussion, it was determined that a comparison be done against Mansfield Ordinance 20 – Creation of the Planning Commission and Zoning Section 908 – Duties of the Planning Commission. Russ will also compare it against the MTA Redbook. Mike Carey suggested that the Planning Commission Board members should get a copy of the MTA Redbook for future purposes. Russ will bring the suggestion to the Board at their next meeting.

Russ informed the commission that the Light Ordinance was approved by the Board at the February 21st meeting.

The Solar Ordinance was discussed. Discussion centered around whether a separate ordinance is needed or if it should be included the Zoning Ordinance when we amend it. Discussion also concerned whether a separate ordinance is needed since the State Legislature took control of approval of location, size, etc. of renewable energy sources. Matter was tabled for a later date.

Discussion was held concerning a new Zoning District. Concern of the Planning Commission is to keep the area as natural as possible. Matter was tabled and to be kept as an open discussion.

John Gilner inquired if the Commission can meet more frequently. Russ stated that the Board set the number of meetings at four per year. After discussion, Russ will request to the Township Board that we have a total of six meetings per year.

The date for the for the next Planning Commission meeting will be on July 16th, 2024 at 4:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM after being motioned by Mike and seconded by John.