



Manistee County Planning Building • 395 Third Street • Manistee, Michigan 49660

DRAFT  
Thursday, April 27, 2023  
6:15 pm

Manistee County Board Room  
415 Third Street  
Manistee, Michigan

## MINUTES

### A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becker-Witt at 6:15 pm.

Members Present: Eleanor DeYoung, Glenn Zaring, Phil Landis, Mary Becker-Witt and Margaret Batzer

Members Absent: Duane Jones and Ted Batzer

Ex-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Szokola Planning Director, Katie Mehl City Zoning /Planner 1, Jodie Lynch Planner 1, Nancy Baker Planning Secretary/Assistant to Planner

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Davis Housing Coordinator and Mr. DeYoung

### B. Approval of the Agenda

**Mr. Zaring moved, seconded by Mr. Landis to approve the April 27, 2023, agenda as printed. Motion passed with a voice vote.**

### C. Public Comment.

None

### D. House Keeping Business

Act to approve the March 23, 2023 Minutes.

**Ms. Batzer moved, seconded by Mr. Landis to approve the March 23, 2023, minutes as printed. Motion passed with a voice vote.**

### E. Unfinished Business and Reports

#### 1. Planning Department Update

Mr. Szokola:

- Township contracts expiring; trying to get all contracts to fit the budget year
- Arcadia extended to end of September, hoping all contracts do an end of September date- will work with county fiscal year
- Implementing county-wide single ordinance would keep contract costs down
- Department available for contracted townships all day-all week; residents like this
- Attorney reviewing Brownfield process and revolving fund

- Capital Improvement Plan ready for review, inventory pictures need to be of county buildings, old plan contains noncounty buildings
- Binders for PC should be ready for next meeting
- Attended Brownfield training with EGLE overview
- Brownfield RFQ; looking at 2
- Onekama Village amendments: short term rentals (str)/ boutique hotels-must be under 9 units, eating and drinking food establishment definition, hotels are 10 units or more
- Budget—staffing will stay the same
- Department may take on other communities with staff working on Rec Commission
- To date city contract has not been renewed
- Internal process: will create reports for soil erosion and code enforcement permits
- Planning Commission end of year report of planning within the county for serviced communities
- Mr. Carson writing an article about County Planning Department and zoning contracts
- Other counties presented interest in doing zoning contracts with the county

Ms. Lynch:

- Great office support and working environment
- Onekama Township updated str language and looking at city marijuana language
- Arcadia Township working on str and developing stand alone ordinance
- SUP's—1 in Onekama Township, 2 in Bear Lake Township
- Betsie River ZBA training with Katie and Mike

Ms. Mehl:

- Renewable energy webinar: potential upcoming legislation- state can supersede zoning if local units don't incorporate regulations, goals, and objectives into master plans
- Renewable energy: State has amended Zoning Enabling Act— community must address str-solar-wireless power-adult foster care/rehabilitation
- City zoning amendment

## 2. Meetings and Trainings Attended by Planning Commission Members

Ms. Batzer: Conservation District can get certification through Federal Government for fed grants for administrative cost-Conservation District qualify-need to get county agency or department certified with this.

Mr. Zaring: busy with soil erosion and code enforcement—code has clear process.

Mr. Landis: total down from past several years, changed companies, styrofoam not recyclable, take plastic bags and film plastic to Meijer—used for agriculture which has many uses--wrapping things, frost protection, etc.

Ms. Becker-Witt: attended Governor's breakfast in Cadillac

## F. New Business and Communications

### 1. Bear Lake Zoning Ordinance (ZO) Amendments—Jodie Lynch

Ms. Lynch: amendment to Z.O., Article 16, Section H.2

- Change 1 permit to 2 permits, 60 days to 90 days per calendar year
- Bear Lake Planning Commission recommended the township board approve the amendment to the z.o.

2. Bear Lake Township Master Plan

Ms. Lynch:

- Reviewed Master Plan
- Recommendations: include brief description under each image, correct grammatical errors within document

**Ms. Batzer motioned, seconded by Mr. Zaring to approve Bear Lake Master Plan with staff recommendations. Motion carried with voice vote.**

- Ms. Becker-Witt signed letter of PC approval

3. Wexford County Master Plan—Ms. Lynch

Ms. Lynch:

- Staff began review, due June 16<sup>th</sup>
- PC to review and give suggestions/comments at next meeting

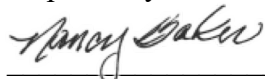
4. Other business from Planning Commission members or its staff

None

G. Adjourn

Ms. Batzer moved, seconded by Mr. Zaring to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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Nancy Baker, Recording Secretary, for  
Eleanor DeYoung, Secretary, Manistee County Planning Commission  
Date: April 27, 2023