

Board of Supervisors/Planning Commission

MINUTES

June 5, 2024

IN-PERSON MEETING

Supervisors Present: Bill Ryker, Pete Kade, Jim Hopkins, Dave Long and Lorna Yearwood.

Planning Commission Members Present: Bobb Carson, Angela Kelly, Dawn Nicholson, Neil O'Brien, Dawn Nicholson, Bruce Whitesell, Nicole Zane.

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director); Samantha McLean, Michael Baker Inc.

Mr. Ryker called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Deferred

BUSINESS ITEMS

Review of Comprehensive Plan and MAP (Municipal Assistance Program) – Ms. Samantha McLean, Michael Baker representative, was present. Comprehensive Plan (CP) was formally adopted May 28, 2024. Ms. McLean confirmed the timeline for goals are suggestions to keep the plan goals moving forward. She said some municipalities keep their comprehensive plans out and referenced them at meetings as a guide. Mr. Carson said the Planning Commission (PC) cannot take on all 11 goals (that the CP delegates to the PC) right away. He asked for the Supervisors to let them know how to prioritize. Mr. Carson advised the Planning Commission is a bit gun shy as they have previously put months of work into certain draft ordinances only to see them disregarded by the Board. Ms. Kelly said this meeting now is a great step in the right direction of working together. There was extended discussion by all regarding budget restrictions on implementation of the new comprehensive plan goals. Mr. Kade said revenue and balancing budget needs to be our first effort. He said needed water systems and other goals in the Comprehensive Plan get put in with money. Mr. Carson suggested starting with wastewater infrastructure.

Ms. McLean discussed the MAP grant. This has to do with implementing the Comprehensive Plan. She said there are two deadlines for the grants – one spring and one fall. Springfield attempted to meet the spring deadline but was given wrong information; therefore, it will target the fall deadline. Michael Baker Consultants will work on the application with the Township and submit the application. This application will focus on Villages. The scope of work listed in the application/memo regarding the grant references Village studies (four) and a corridor study on Rt 309.

Event Venue Guidance/Ordinance - Mr. Carson discussed the previous work the Planning Commission has done regarding event venues and the definitions formulated. The work to date recommends a yearly permit application and associated fee to cover processing costs. The discussion suggested that proposed venues should apply for a special exception so that appropriate conditions could be appended. It was agreed that current event venues (including churches and other non-profit organizations) should also apply by special exception, but that the hearing fee for those existing operations be waived. Mr. Carson will write up a draft ordinance for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None