

**THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Regular Meeting, Wednesday September 29, 2021**

1. Call to Order:

- a. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Kilgore at 7:00 p.m. at Thornapple Township located at 200 E. Main St. Middleville, MI 49333.
- b. Present: Bryan Finkbeiner, Linda Gasper, Elizabeth Hansson, Tom Kilgore, Sandra Rairigh and Craig Wandrie. Absent: Elaine Denton Also Present: Catherine Getty and Amy Brown. No one from the public attended.

2. Approval of Agenda:

**MOTION** by Gasper, **SUPPORT** by Rairigh to approve the agenda, as printed. **MOTION CARRIED** with 6 yes voice votes and 1 absent.

3. Approval of Minutes:

**MOTION** by Rairigh, **SUPPORT** by Gasper to approve the June 28, 2021 minutes. **MOTION CARRIED** with 6 yes voice votes and 1 absent.

4. Citizen Comments: None

5. Public Hearings:

- a. Private Road Application #68 - Application was withdrawn at this time.

6. New Business:

- a. Master Plan Implementation Schedule – Getty reviewed the schedule included in the agenda packet with commissioners. Discussed the 11 action points that the commissioners could decide to address. Some would provide increased continuity between ordinances issued by the Village of Middleville and Barry County. Gasper asked what the next step would be. Getty provided two options to the commissioners as to how to work on these points. First, they could pass along these action points to various committees to address and recommend back to the committee as a whole. The second option proposed was to schedule a meeting for the commission to work through it together. Commissioners agreed they would prefer to work on it as a full commission. Getty suggested doing this in the winter and will follow up with commissioners to schedule.

7. Unfinished Business: None

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Ordinance Committee [Kilgore, Finkbeiner, Rairigh, Gasper (alt)] – Kilgore stated that the committee is recommending two changes to Article XIX Special Uses Section 19.64 and Article IV Section 4.3. Getty presented two options to the commissioners as to how to proceed. First, they could hold this until after they completed the Master Plan action points as it is likely there will be more changes to the ordinances. That way there could be one public comment and one occasion where their recommendations would be presented to the township board for approval. However, if it was held off for the time being, someone could possibly apply for a special use permit that would otherwise be clarified in the revisions to the ordinance. Conversely, they could decide to handle this change right away and separate from any other possible changes. Gasper and Kilgore agreed it would be better to go ahead with the change so that it is completed now. Commissioners agreed. Getty stated she would schedule the public hearing for the next regular Planning Commission meeting.
- b. Site Plan Committee [Finkbeiner, Denton, Wandrie, Hansson(alt)] – The committee did meet at the location of the Private Road Application #68 to review the site plan. They had a good discussion with the applicant and discussed the possibility of entry via Misty Ridge versus M-37. Some pros and cons were discussed, and the applicant is looking into their options further.
- c. Joint Planning Committee [Rairigh, Denton, Gasper, Kilgore, Getty(alt)] -None.

9. Administrator’s Report:

- a. Zoning Activity Report – Provided in the Planning Committee packet. Getty asked if there were any questions. There were no questions at this time.
- b. Code Enforcement Report – Getty updated the commissioners regarding communication taking place with a company called MichWave. Getty updated the commissioners on the situation with Caledonia and where they are in the process with this company.

10. Citizen Comments: None

11. Commissioner Comments: Kilgore informed the commissioners that the short-term rental property on Duncan Lake had been sold. Getty replied that she doesn’t believe that short-term rentals are an issue on Duncan Lake and that likely an ordinance would not be needed to address this.

12. Adjournment:

**MOTION** by Finkbeiner, **SUPPORT** by Wandrie to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm.  
**MOTION CARRIED** with 6 yes voice votes and 1 absent.



Sandra Rairigh, Secretary



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 10-25-2021