

**Orange Township
Planning Commission Meeting**

**Berlin/Orange Fire Department Bldg.
265 W David Hwy, Ionia MI**

January 20, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Township Clerk Plett swore in Brian Stuart from his reappointment to another term by the Township Board.

Vice-Chairman Brian Stuart called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Duane Nash, Linn Plett, Brian Stuart and Don Barker were present. Dan Reeder had called earlier to note that he was ill and would be absent. Also present was Zoning Administrator Jeanne Vandersloot.

Minutes Approval: Nash motioned, Plett seconded, to approve the October 21, 2014 minutes as presented. Motion Carried 4-0.

Agenda Approval: Motion to accept the presented agenda was made by Plett, seconded by Barker, carried 4-0.

Agenda Item # 1 – Elect Officers

Barker motioned, Plett seconded, to keep the same group (Reeder is Chair, Stuart is Vice-Chair, Barker is Secretary). Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda item # 2 – Sparrow Hospital Landscape Plan

Vandersloot showed the members the new landscaping plan that was submitted after the ordinance amendments were approved by the Board regarding landscaping formulas. The new plan met or exceeded the ordinance. She went over some of the tree types and showed the close-ups of the landscaped areas as well as the front of the property, along the driveway and along the parking lots. Barker motioned, Nash seconded, to approve the new landscape plan. Motion carried 4-0.

Agenda item # 3- Master Plan Update Discussion

Vandersloot brought a printed book showing the pages and updates that have been done so far. New photos were on the front cover and additional photos will go in and throughout the book such as a farm picture in the agriculture section, a business in the commercial section, etc. She brought a group of photos for the members to look at. They went thorough them and chose various ones for inclusion into the plan. She showed the members other maps that have been obtained and a future land use map that the County is working on to finalize for us. She noted other topics that will be added to the plan and asked questions on history and other items for clarification for the book. The members asked for a timeline and plan on how the rest of the process will be done. She explained that once the book is completed, (goal April meeting) then the planning commission will send it to the Board for their input. If the Board accepts it, they will authorize sending it out for the 42 day review and comment time by neighboring municipalities and other required entities. After the review and comment time is over, they will hold a public hearing. Once any typo's, additions, or corrections is completed and acceptable, then the Commission will adopt the Plan. After the adoption, the same municipalities and entities will get a final copy of the book. Vandersloot is obtaining emails for as many as possible so as to not have to print a lot of books other than the needed ones for Township personnel.

Public Comment: None

Vandersloot explained about the billboard inquiry and the ZBA will be hearing a variance from Sparrow Hospital regarding sign height on their proposed entrance sign.

Adjournment

Plett motioned, Barker seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

Next meeting: The next regular scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 pm, April 21, 2015, at the Fire Dept. Bldg.

Submitted by Jeanne Vandersloot, Recorder