

**TOWNSHIP OF SOMERSET, COUNTY OF HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN – PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2022/ PAGE 1 OF 2**

CALL TO ORDER – The regular meeting of the Township of Somerset Planning Commission along with two Public Hearings was called to order by Chairperson Namrata Carolan, on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Somerset Center Community Room, 12715 E. Chicago Road, Somerset Center, Michigan. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. In attendance there were members of the public. In Attendance there was Zoning Administrator Don Figiel and Zoning Board of Appeal member Dan York.

ROLL CALL OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS – Chairperson – Namrata Carolan – (Present) Vice Chair- Lynn Hartzler- (Present) Secretary – John Berro (Present) Board Representative – Steve Meckley – (Present) Member – Ray York – (Present)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Lynn Hartzler motioned to approve the Planning Commission Minutes of September 13, 2022 with correction to update the November 1, 2022 meeting date. Second by Ray York
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Minutes approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ray York moved to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Lynn Hartzler: Ayes:5 Nays: 0 motion approved.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – No Member noted a conflict of interest for the topics to be considered by the Planning Commission at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: - No Correspondence was noted as received.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVE, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

- A. No Comments from Board Representative
- B. No Comments from Zoning Administrator Don Figiel
- C. No Comments from Zoning Board of Appeals member Dan York

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PUBLIC COMMENTS –

No public came forward

PUBLIC HEARING ON C.U.P # JASON AND APRIL THORNE

Chairperson Namrata Carolan stated the Public Hearing (1) scheduled was for the Conditional Use Permit application # 37 submitted by Jason and April Thorne for the purpose to allow recreational camping on parcel # 30-04-016-200006-5-1. Chairperson Namrata Carolan further stated at the conclusion of the hearing, the Planning Commission will meet to discuss recommendations to the Township Board. The members of the Planning Commission reviewed each item and decided on the acceptance or deletion of each item.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARING (1)

Several members of the public came forward addressing the Conditional Use Permit. Members of the planning commission discussed at length and heard testimonies and considered other materials with the property owners and the public when making decisions on the application.

Public Hearing was concluded to make a decision.

A. Lynn Hartzler motioned on the basis of Section 4.9.5 of the Zoning Ordinance, the conditional use permit be denied due to the findings and further recommend the decision to the Board of Trustees. Second by John Berro: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE

Chairperson Namrata Carolan stated the Public Hearing (2) scheduled was to review changes to Zoning Ordinance and receive comments from the public. Chairperson Namrata Carolan further stated at the conclusion of the hearing, the Planning Commission will meet to discuss recommendations to the Township Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARING (2)

Several members of the public came forward addressing the Zoning Ordinances. Members of the planning commission discussed at length and heard testimonies, suggestions and questions that came via email and considered other materials that were presented during the public hearing.

Public Hearing was concluded to make a decision.

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A. Ray York motioned to accept the amendment of the Zoning Ordinance and move forward to take it to the Board Of Trustees for review from the Attorney. Second by John Berro: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 motion approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Discussed during Public Hearing (2)

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Proposed Planning Commission Meeting Dates for 2023

Ray York motioned to accept the Proposed Planning Commission Meeting Dates for 2023 as presented Second by John Berro: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 motion approved.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ON-GOING BUSINESS – No additional or ongoing business was brought forward.

ITEMS TO BE FINALIZED –

Chairperson Namrata Carolan emphasized the intention by the Planning Commission to have multiple outreach to the public in addition to the required public hearing that were held today on November 1, 2022 for the review of the Zoning Ordinance. In addition Chairperson Namrata Carolan requested for the current budget for the Planning Commission, adding emphasis that operating costs need to be kept under budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Members of the Public came forth.

Chairperson Carolan once again thanked Ray York for assisting with reviewing current zoning ordinance and putting effort into detailed work within the Planning Commission especially during formatting the current file at hand for the Zoning Ordinance. She thanked the public for taking time to attend the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:03 PM Motion by Lynn Hartzler and Second John Berro Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by Namrata Carolan