

**WATERVLIET CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

Present: Joseph Stepich, Glen Gianetti, Duane Bodfish, Kevin Schuhknecht, Scott McKee.

Also Present: Larry McNew, Pamela Teeters/McNew

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call was taken.

The minutes of the January 2, 2018 meeting were read. J. Stepich made a motion to approve the minutes as read. S. McKee seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**McNew / Teeters Special Land Use Permit Application**

D. Bodfish made a motion to close out of regular session and open the scheduled public hearing for an application for the issuance of a Special Land Use Permit for an off-site sign in the C-Commercial District. J. Stepich seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The hearing was opened at 2:01 p.m.

After brief discussion of the nature of the request and the actual physical characteristics of the sign by McNew, and with no other comment from the audience, J. Stepich made a motion to close the public hearing and re-enter into regular session. K. Schuhknecht seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 2:06 p.m.

Back in regular session J. Stepich made a motion to recommend to the Township Board, the issuance of a Special Land Use Permit for an off-site sign in the C-Commercial District on parcel #: 11-21-0028-0008-05-0. D. Bodfish seconded. A roll call vote is as follows: S. McKee, yea; J. Stepich, yea; G. Gianetti, yea; D. Bodfish, yea; K. Schuhknecht, yea.

**Master Plan Up-Date**

Stepich, bringing the Commission up to speed on where they left off at the January meeting, said that the Commission agreed that a diversified park and recreation plan is to be created using the 2015 Park and Recreation Plan as a basis. K. Schuhknecht, to clarify the approach, interrogatively noted that the Township is to work together with the City to develop a park system along the Paw Paw River beginning east of the city on airport property, encompassing Hays Park and the paper mill property and terminating to the

west at the newly acquired Jonathan-Lee Park. Stepich confirmed that was the plan. He also noted that it is planned to schedule a meeting with the City's Planning Commission to work out the details of the interconnected park system.

Some Commission members asked for a briefing of what, exactly, the interconnected park system consisted of geographically. D. Householder provided an aerial map highlighting the specific properties comprising the planned interconnected park system. In addition to that, Stepich added that what should also be considered is the identification of properties that have potential value in the way of activity placement - i.e. soccer fields, tennis courts, etc., with an aim at acquiring those properties.

J. Stepich suggested that it would be prudent to continue the planning process and continue discussions utilizing adequate input from the public, hence, in addition to the public hearing required by state law prior to the Plan's adoption, focus groups or public meetings with residents and/or organizations having a specialized interest in each facet of the plan should be conducted, such as; parks and recreation, Senior services and municipal mergers.

With no further business to come before the Commission J. Stepich made a motion to adjourn. G. Gianetti seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lohr", written in a cursive style.

Robert Lohr  
Zoning Administrator