

**WATERVLIET CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 3, 2020**

Present: Joseph Stepich, Colleen Curtis, Scott McKee, Linda Rizzo, Deanna Heminger, Kevin Schuhknecht.

Also Present: None

Chairman Schuhknecht called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

The minutes of the February 4, 2020 meeting were read. J. Stepich made a motion to approve the minutes as read. C. Curtis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Airport Park Update**

J. Stepich reported that the Township Board conducted a budget meeting on Wednesday February 26, 2020 where he reported on the status of the park project. Stepich stated to the Township Board that, as of this time, the consensus of the Planning Commission is to develop the playing field first and then focus on a building later and added that was his recommendation to the Board.

Stepich told the Commissioners that during discussion of the project, the Township Board agreed that the most suitable course of action would be to leave the direction and development of the park in hands of the Planning Commission. He also told the Commission that the Township Board had approved \$4,000 to be used for a survey and other preliminary work. Stepich said that he had received a quotation from the engineering firm Merritt-Midwest Civil Engineers of \$3,250 to complete a survey and a drainage study. He also reported that a representative of Wightman and Associates told him that they could provide comparable work for a cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000 dollars.

Stepich, re-addressing the park, presented the idea, "Maybe we don't need a building." He specified that there may be an ice rink, at which point a pavilion could be built over that which, in the off season, could be used for farmer's markets, pickle ball courts and be just a general multi purpose arena. If need be, a concession stand and bathrooms could be built off to one side as an annex. He also noted that eliminating the building would increase parking capacity.

At the end of discussion D. Heminger made a motion to allocate up to \$4,000 for a topographical survey and drainage study to be conducted by Merritt-Midwest Civil Engineers. C. Curtis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

It was reported that a Township resident, Louis Nordell, has submitted his name as a candidate for the open seat on the Planning Commission.

It was also reported that the Township Board did not approve the site plan for the proposed truck stop at 3558 M-140 due to the fact that an updated site plan showing the Planning Commission's recommendations was not submitted.

With no further business before the Planning Commission, C. Curtis made a motion to adjourn. K. Schuhknecht seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lohr", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Lohr  
Zoning Administrator