

MINUTES
BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, June 29, 2017 --- 7:30 p.m.

Big Rapids Township Hall, 14212 Northland Drive, Big Rapids, MI 49307

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 P.M.

Chairman Philip Keating called the special meeting of the Big Rapids Charter Township Planning Commission to order at the township hall on Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present: Philip Keating, Carman Bean, Zach Cook, Gordon Oliver, Mark Sweppenheiser and Amanda Wethington. Mary Davis is excused. The record shows a quorum is present. Also Present: Zoning Administrator and Recording Secretary, Brent Mason and Supervisor Bill Stanek.

III. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Mr. Keating asked if any of the Commission members had known conflicts of interest with any item on the agenda for this meeting. No one indicated that a conflict of interest existed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

V. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2018-2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

Mr. Keating opened the Public Hearing at 7:33 p.m. Mr. Keating asked if there were any petitions, reports or phone calls regarding the Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Mason replied that there were none. Mr. Bean commented that he is always so surprised that there isn't any public participation at these hearings. Mr. Stanek passed on his thanks to everyone that worked on the CIP project. He is very grateful for the plan that was produced. Mr. Bean commented that it was a good start considering that the Township has been without one for so long. Mr. Keating expressed his thanks to everyone involved in the process of preparing the CIP. Since there are no members of the public present, Mr. Keating closed the public hearing at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Keating asked if any of the PC members had any comments or questions regarding the information that has been presented so far. Mr. Keating asked if the Full CIP and the minutes for tonight's meeting will be presented to the Board of Trustees. He was advised that the CIP and the minutes will be forwarded to the Board. Mr. Keating asked if any of the Planning Commission members wanted any further comments included in the minutes for review by the Board of Trustees. An informal poll of the members in attendance concluded that they do not have any further comments for the Board at this time. Mr. Keating asked if anyone wanted to make a motion. Mr. Oliver made a motion to approve the 2018 – 2023 Capital Improvement Plan as presented and to forward it to the Township Board of Trustees. Mrs. Wethington seconded the motion. Mr. Bean advised that he would not be able to vote tonight because he has to vote on the plan at the Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Sweppenheiser voiced a concern about the paving of the township hall parking lot, and

wondered if that project would occur after the fire hall building project is completed. Mr. Stanek stated that the parking lot paving would occur after the Fire hall is done. Mr. Keating asked that it be noted that the ranking of the Planning Commission was based on different criteria than those of the Supervisor or the Department Heads. He also wanted to make sure the Board of Trustees are aware that the Planning Commission did rank the items independently of any other ranking. Mr. Bean and Mr. Stanek discussed how the input from Mr. Stanek weighed on the Planning Commission's decision-making process. Mr. Bean also advised the Commission that he and Mr. Mason got together later and revised the weighting of the Supervisor rankings and the Department head rankings so that they would be similar to the Planning Commission's rankings. Mr. Mason replied that he would make sure the record reflects Mr. Keating's concerns that the Planning Commission's rankings were based on their criteria only. Mr. Stanek did state that all three viewpoints are useful in determining the overall ranking of a CIP request. Mr. Keating asked if there were any other thoughts on the process. Mr. Bean mentioned that he feels the Planning Commission should be responsible for coming up with a system of ranking and weighting that will be used by everyone in the future. Mr. Keating brought the motion up for a vote, and the motion was approved with 5 yeas and 1 abstain (Mr. Bean).

Mr. Keating asked Mr. Stanek if he had anything else he wanted to share with the Commission tonight. Mr. Stanek replied that he did not have anything else to present. Mr. Mason shared that the site plan for the fire hall addition is being finalized by Progressive AE, and that Mr. Oezer is willing to attend the next Planning Commission meeting on July 11, 2017. Mr. Keating stated he would like Mr. Oezer to be present. Mr. Mason advised he would contact Mr. Oezer and invite him to the PC Meeting.

Mr. Bean wished everyone a nice 4th of July holiday weekend.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Keating entertained a motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. The motion was made by Mr. Sweppenheiser and seconded by Mr. Bean. Motion carried with 6 yeas.

Motion to approve the Planning Commission minutes of June 29, 2017 by: Mr. Bean, Seconded by: Mr. Oliver. Roll call vote carried with 6 yeas:

Philip Keating, Chairman
BIG RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION

Date Approved