

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016 7:00 PM
at the Franklin Community Center/Kreger House**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Village of Franklin Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman, Connie Ettinger at the Franklin Community Center/Kreger House, 26201 Carol Ave., Franklin, Michigan at 7:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Rajaei Abbass, Karen Couf-Cohen, Calvin Cupidore, Connie Ettinger, Peter Halick, Dean Moenck, Bob Wilke

Absent: None

Also Present: Planning Consultants, Sarah Traxler and Brian Keeseey, McKenna & Associates; Village Administrator, Jim Creech; Village Clerk Eileen Pulker

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Moenck, seconded by Cupidore to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Abbass, Couf-Cohen, Cupidore, Ettinger, Halick, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Motion carried.

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of February 17, 2016

A typographical error was pointed out listing "tree" in lieu of "three".

Motion by Ettinger, seconded by Wilke to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2016, as amended.

Ayes: Abbass, Cupidore, Ettinger, Halick, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Abstain: Couf-Cohen

Motion carried.

V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Creech reported that at the Monday's Council Meeting during the Public Requests and Comments section a resident voiced his concern about the Right of Way Ordinance and how, in his opinion, it was not being enforced. The resident rebuffed the suggestion that he meet with himself and Council President Kochensparger, indicating that he preferred having this discussion at a public meeting. The Ravines Condominium's Water Agreement with Oakland County was rescinded and as such the condo association will now own and contract to operate its own well. The demolition application for a house on Normandy was approved. There will be a Budget Workshop on April 5, 2016. Creech noted that he proposed some Charter revisions to be put on the November Ballot.

Ettinger noted that she presented the Planning Commission's schedule.

Ettinger acknowledged David Goldberg, former PC Chair, who was in the audience and introduced Brian Keesey, Senior Planner, McKenna and Associates, who will be a new Assistant Project Manager for Franklin.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ettinger opened the meeting for public comments with no one from the public responding.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Complete Streets Committee

Ettinger updated the Commission on those who have volunteered to be on the Committee.

- Village Council – Fred Gallasch, Judy Moenck, Tentative Alternate;
- MSF – Bill Finnicum and Courtney Miller, no Alternate has been chosen;
- HDC – has not gotten back to PC about selections.

Motion by Ettinger, Seconded by Wilke, to nominate Connie Ettinger, Raj Abbass, and Bob Wilke, Alternate to the Complete Streets Committee.

Ayes: Abbass, Couf-Cohen, Cupidore, Ettinger, Halick, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Election of Officers.

Cupidore asked for a clarification about the regularly scheduled election of the officers.

Ettinger responded that the election would be in July noting that this particular election was to fill the vacated position of a member who had moved away.

Motion by Wilke, seconded by Ettinger, to nominate Bob Wilke as Vice President of the Planning Commission.

Ayes: Abbass, Couf-Cohen, Cupidore, Ettinger, Halick, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Motion carried.

B. Consider Review of Zoning Ordinance.

Ettinger noted that there had been a misunderstanding concerning the Review of the Zoning Ordinance. At the last Council meeting there were only four (4) members present and the vote was 3-1, which was not a majority. Therefore, the request is moot. However, Traxler provided a revised and potential schedule for updating the Zoning and Sign Ordinances. She also provided the Commission with a “Technical Review of Zoning and Sign Ordinances. March 9, 2016”. Ettinger requested that the Commissioners bring comments and suggestions, to the next meeting. The tentative completion would be in August. Traxler stated that the Technical Review was current and included a new section on “Signs and Outdoor Display Structures”. She also noted that there might be joint discussions with the HDC with regards to the review of this new Chapter.

C. Review Chapter 1474 Signs and Outdoor Displays.

Ettinger suggested topics to be researched and discussed. It was her desire to make “Signs and Outdoor Displays” a separate entity entitled, “Chapter 1474 Signs and Outdoor Displays”.

Discussion ensued.

D. Discussion Items:

1. Fracking regulations.

Ettinger prefaced her comments by relating recent events in Southfield. She noted that she was concerned that it might have negative effects on Franklin’s water supply if it were permitted. Mira Stakhiv, Crestwood, suggested that “Drilling” be included in the language and discussion. Creech noted that the Village Attorney was very well versed on this subject and keenly aware of the process and protections needed to keep a community safe as he has been involved with this issue in Rochester Hills. Pulker reminded the Commission about the water study conducted in 2003.

2. DTE Resolution regarding Tree Trimming.

Ettinger reported that Beverly Hills had negotiated with DTE that its residents would receive a written notice before any trees were removed and door hangers explaining what was to be done. At the Council meeting on Monday, it was decided that Creech would contact the community support department of DTE, requesting something in writing from DTE guaranteeing Franklin with at least the same protection. Ettinger added that she would like to see “significant trimming of trees” be included in the agreement.

3. Audio and Video Surveillance Devices Regulation.

This issue of outside surveillance in connection to security devices was a matter of concern to Ettinger because of privacy implications. She was of the opinion that PC should begin thinking about how to control this issue. Also, at the Council meeting Police Chief Roberts mentioned to her his concern about drones. Ettinger was not aware of any Audio surveillance but maybe it, too, should also be considered.

Cupidore had an opinion about introducing new regulations when, in fact, there appeared to be some difficulty in regulating and enforcing the Ordinances which were presently on the books. After the discussion Ettinger withdrew the item. However, the subject of drones was still viable in her opinion.

4. Update on Technology regarding Cell Towers.

Ettinger briefed the PC on the Village’s history on the subject of Cell Towers. It was her desire to invite representatives from the various cell companies that service this area to a PC meeting in order to explain its new technology and demonstrate how the towers would blend into the existing landscape of the Village. Safety is also a high priority and concern.

Moenck reminded the Commission that according to the Village Ordinance, all towers must be located on Village property.

5. Status of Design and Sustainability Guidelines.

Ettinger began the discussion by saying that the “Guidelines” also known as Franklin 2020 were referred to in at least four (4) places in the most recent Master Plan. However, funding was needed for a consultant to proceed with the Design Guidelines. Creech verified that in the 2016-2017 Planning Commission Budget there is between \$15,000 and \$20,000 which could be used for implementing whatever projects the PC deemed important and necessary. He thought this amount would be sufficient for this particular project.

Moenck clarified that the Guidelines were for only the Village downtown.

IX. BUDGET REPORT

The Planning Commission is under budget.

X. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting, April 20, 2016 at the Franklin Community Center/Kreger House.**

Ettinger stated that there would be an Application for those residents who were interested in being a Volunteer-at-large on the Complete Streets Committee. It is hoped that the applicants would be from different areas within the Village. Ettinger emphasized that all meetings would be open to the public and encouraged its participation.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Cupidore, seconded by Couf-Cohen to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Abbass, Couf-Cohen, Cupidore, Ettinger, Halick, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk