

MINUTES
WEST MANHEIM TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023
6:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the West Manheim Township Planning Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Jim Myers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS: Shanna Smale, Township Secretary, swore in the new members of the Planning Commission, Frederick Walker and Jeffrey Haines.

ROLL CALL: The roll was called, and the following Planning Commission Members were present: Chairman Jim Myers, Jeff Haines, Darrell Raubenstine, Frederick Walker, Jay Weisensale, Township Manager Mike Bowersox, and recording secretary, Heather Bair. Township Engineer Cory McCoy was not present.

REORGANIZATION – 2023: Prior to reorganizing, each member of the Planning Commission gave a brief introduction about themselves to the other members.

A. Chairman

Chairman Myers asked for nominations for Chairman of the Planning Commission. Darrell Raubenstine made a motion for Jim Myers to remain as Chairman, seconded by Jay Weisensale. Chairman Myers asked if there were any more nominations and received none. Jay Weisensale made the motion to close the nominations, seconded by Darrell Raubenstine. All planning members in attendance agreed that Chairman Jim Myers would remain in his current position. **Motion carried.**

B. Vice -Chairman

Chairman Myers asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission. Darrell Raubenstine made a motion for Jay Weisensale to serve as Vice - Chairman, seconded by Jim Myers. Chairman Myers asked if there were any more nominations and received none. Darrell Raubenstine made the motion to close the nominations, seconded by Jay Weisensale. All planning members in attendance agreed that Vice-Chairman would be Jay Weisensale. **Motion carried.**

C. Secretary

Chairman Myers asked for nominations for Secretary of the Planning Commission. Darrell Raubenstine made a motion for Fred Walker to serve as Secretary, seconded by Jay Weisensale. Chairman Myers asked if there were any more nominations and received none. Jay Weisensale made the motion to close the nominations, seconded by Darrell Raubenstine. All planning members in attendance agreed that Secretary would be Fred Walker. **Motion carried.**

D. Recording Secretary

Chairman Myers asked for nominations for Recording Secretary of the Planning Commission. Jay Weisensale made a motion for Heather Bair to serve as Recording Secretary, seconded by Jim Myers. All planning members in attendance agreed that Recording Secretary would be Heather Bair. **Motion carried.**

E. Establish the Meeting Dates and Times for the Planning Commission Meetings

Jay Weisensale made a motion that the meeting dates and times for the Planning Commission would stay the third Thursday of each month and the meeting time at 6 p.m., seconded by Jim Myers. All planning members in attendance agreed. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular Meeting Minutes, December 15, 2022.

Jay Weisensale requested a revision to the minutes. Jay Weisensale made a motion to approve the December 15, 2022, Planning Commission minutes with the requested changes, seconded by Jim Myers. **Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

VISITORS: Chairman Jim Myers asked if there was anyone present that wished to address the Commission and received no reply.

PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA: Andy Hoffman, previous Planning Commission Board member, welcomed the new members and provided suggestions. Mike Bowersox, Township Manager, also welcomed new board members and provided advice.

ZONING MATTER:

Fence Height Ordinance -

Mike Bowersox gave an overview of the fence height ordinance updates. A public hearing will be held at the Township Board of Supervisors meeting on February 21, 2023. Planning members were given a copy of the fence ordinance to review. Planning members and Mike Bowersox discussed the proposed fence ordinance and specifications.

A recommendation to the Board of Supervisors was made by Darrell Raubenstine to change from 12 ft high fence to 8 ft up to 10 ft with barbed wire, prohibit concertina razor wire, and the fence must be set off property line by 3 ft. Recommendation was seconded by Jay Weisensale. **Motion carried.**

The Zoning Officer will track changes on the proposed ordinance for the Planning Commission to review at the February meeting and prepare correspondence to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Zoning Map Changes -

Chairman Jim Myers and Mike Bowersox gave an overview on the proposed zoning map changes and recommendations discussed by the Planning Commission.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS: Chairman Jim Myers and Mike Bowersox provided the new members with an overview of the subdivision plans both recent and those in process.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

SIGNING OF APPROVED PLANS: There were no plans to sign at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jay Weisensale asked if the letter from the Planning Commission was given to the Board of Supervisors in response to the Curative Amendment. Chairman Jim Myers stated that he will be attending the next Public Hearing and he will enter the letter into the record.

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting for the Planning Commission is on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Jay Weisensale made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m., seconded by Jim Myers. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Bair, Recording Secretary