

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017 7:00 PM
FRANKLIN VILLAGE HALL
32325 FRANKLIN ROAD, FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Village of Franklin Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman, Connie Ettinger at the Franklin Village Hall, 32325 Franklin Road, Franklin, MI at 7:01P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Calvin Cupidore, Connie Ettinger, David Goldberg, Dean Moenck, Bob Wilke
Absent: Rajaei Abbass, Peter Halick
Also Present: Planning Consultant, Sarah Traxler, McKenna & Associates; Village Clerk, Eileen Pulker; Village Administrator, Jim Creech; Executive Director of Main Street Franklin (MSF), Deanna Yow; and Barry Silverstein, Chairman of MSF

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Ayes: Cupidore, Ettinger, Goldberg, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Absent: Abbass, Halick

Motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made at this time.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Master Plan Implementation Strategy –

1. Draft Report priorities.

Ettinger summarized the PC's request that Traxler provide more information and cost estimates, including the hiring of third parties, for the implementation of the four (4) projects the Planning Commissions deemed to be its priorities: Wireless Reception, Non-residential Parking improvements, Revitalize Village Center with Lighting, and Village Center Sign Uniformity.

Traxler provided a memo, dated March 27, 2017: **Annual Planning Program for 2017-2018**, to the Planning Commissioners, outlining those requests.

Ettinger noted that how to approach the Village Council with the PC's budget requests was paramount. Goldberg initiated the conversation by pointing out the approximate cost of each project and Cupidore emphasized the importance of a timeline for completion of each.

Ettinger mentioned that a discussion about Sign Uniformity has already begun with a recent meeting with MSF Director, HDC Chairman, Creech, and herself. Topics of temporary A-

frames and the possibility of having an approved template for such, the visibility for those shops which do not front on Franklin Road, the design and material of the signs, and the multi-tenant signs were all discussed.

Moenck expressed his concerns about the Wireless issue and cautioned PC's approach to Council without more research being done. The funding of such research was discussed with Moenck and Goldberg agreeing that such an expense should be the Council's responsibility.

Goldberg opined about all four (4) projects, however, he supported the requesting of money allocations for the parking improvements and sign uniformity and voiced his reasons.

There was an in depth discussion about the lighting issue and that some of the findings of the MSU Study should be considered. Silverstein gave his opinion on the importance of lighting in the Village Center. Cupidore thought lighting should also be included as it impacts the parking improvement and signage.

Goldberg provided the three (3) main projects (minus the Wireless Reception) in stages, which would include the 1st half of the Parking Improvements as he had suggested, plus the lighting location plan and Sign Ordinance. He suggested PC request \$15,000 plus \$1,000 towards the Wireless Reception issue.

Discussion ensued about the process of implementing the designated tasks.

Motion by Cupidore, seconded by Goldberg that Planning Commission submit to the Village Council its recommendations for items #2 (parking improvements), #3 (lighting location plan), and #4 (sign ordinance revisions) within a budget allocation of \$16,000 to complete these initiatives that are detailed and will be further mapped out with a timeline.

Yow inquired if these allocation monies were for more studies about parking and lighting in the Village Center or did it include actual movement towards accomplishing those ends. Goldberg stated that it was his intention to get the stakeholders involved and communicating as the first step and hopefully the solutions would shortly follow.

Silverstein stated that he was curious about a timeline for #3 (Lighting) and #4 (Sign Uniformity). Goldberg explained that the work on signage is progressing and it should be completed in six (6) months. He added that the lighting issue would involve more and different entities, including HDC, VC, and Hubbell Roth & Clark (Village engineers), and would, therefore, take longer. Silverstein suggested that Main Street Oakland County might be able to provide some information. Ettinger estimated that it might take more than a year to complete these two (2) issues. Yow noted that she had spoken with the new Executive Director of Programming at Main Street Oakland County about signage, adding that he might be a good resource.

Ayes: Cupidore, Ettinger, Goldberg, Moenck, Wilke
Nays: None
Absent: Abbass, Halick

Motion carried.

Ettinger referred to Gary Roberts' email which was handed out to all PC members concerning pedestrian connectivity and signage. In her opinion, this might have some impact on PC's discussion regarding the budget it receives. It is her understanding that Council will be talking with HDC and PC at the same time about their budgets. Goldberg reminded the Commissioners what PC's responsibilities are with regards to sidewalks. Pulker commented that Roberts' email was merely for their information.

Ettinger confirmed that the Planning Commission would request an operating budget of \$15,000 for FY2017/2018, the same amount as FY2016/2017, plus \$16,000 for the 2, 3, and 4 Master Plan goals.

VI. GENERAL COMMUNICATION

A. Upcoming Meeting Dates: Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting, April 19, 2017, at 7:00PM.

Ettinger noted that a Village Council Budget planning meeting will be held on April 6, 2017, and that Creech will be proposing a three (3) year projection budget.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Wilke to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Cupidore, Ettinger, Goldberg, Moenck, Wilke

Nays: None

Absent: Abbass, Halick

Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Beke, Recording Secretary

Eileen H. Pulker, Clerk