

**APPROVED
OTTAWA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Monday, March 28, 2005 7:00 PM
Fillmore Administration Building - Board Room
12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive**

DATE: March 28, 2005

PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Complex, Board Room

PRESENT: Betty Gajewski, Bill Miller, Cornelius Vander Kam, Robert Rinck, Jim Miedema, Gary Scholten

ABSENT: John DeGrazia

STAFF: Mark Knudsen, Soonja Hixon

GUESTS: Nate Thompson, Grand Haven Tribune; John Robbins, Holland Sentinel; John Nash, Spring Lake Township

Call to Order:

Chair Betty Gajewski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present to do business. Invocation was given by Bill Miller.

Approval of the Agenda:

05-08 Motion: To approve the March 28, 2005 agenda.

Moved by: Rinck

Supported by: Vander Kam

UNANIMOUS

Approval of the Minutes:

05-09 Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 24, 2005 meeting.

Moved by: Rinck

Supported by: Vander Kam

UNANIMOUS

Announcements:

A. Introductions

Betty Gajewski asked the members of the audience to introduce themselves. She then introduced Gary Scholten, who was recently appointed to the Planning Commission representing school board official.

B. Reports of Meetings Attended

Robert Rinck reported that he recently underwent surgery.

Cornelius Vander Kam attended the NACO Conference in Washington, D.C.

Betty Gajewski attended the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. She reported that the Parks & Recreation Department is trying to secure funding for additional projects at the Upper Macatawa Site. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department is going to experiment with a new parking fee system for Rosy Mound that will begin this summer.

Bill Miller reported that the Emerald Ash Borer Study has been completed and there are no signs of infestation in Ottawa County. Further monitoring will occur. He also reported that Gypsy Moth spraying would begin early May.

Gary Scholten had nothing to report.

Jim Miedema had nothing to report.

Presentations:

Richard Sauve, Michigan Technical Sales Representative, Leica Geo Systems, provided an overview of the Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) system and discussed how the system operates.

Petitions and Communications:

- A. FYI Folder
- B. Electronic Generation, Emissions & GDP Trends: Historical Reductions Plus Clear Skies Act
- C. Letter of correspondence to Michigan State University, regarding the Urban Smart Growth Project
- D. Letter of correspondence from Chuck Morgan regarding his opposition to the Farmland Preservation Fund
- E. Letter of correspondence to Georgetown Township regarding the rezoning of Parcel No. 70-10-31-200-017
- F. Letter of correspondence to Polkton Township regarding the Application for Farmland Agreement (PA 116) for Parcel Nos. 70-05-20-300-013, 70-05-28-100-005, and 70-05-30-200-003

05-10 Motion: To receive for information Items A – F

Moved by: Vander Kam

Supported by: Miller

UNANIMOUS

Public Comments:

John Nash, Supervisor, Spring Lake Township, commended the Planning Department and Ottawa County for being very progressive with planning, wireless communications, and parks.

Action Items:

- A. PA 116 Application for Termination of Floyd & Doanne Link's property (Parcel No. 70-01-04-100-004) in Chester Township

05-11 Motion: To refrain from taking a position on the PA 116 Application and notify Chester Township of the decision.

Discussion Items

- A. Ottawa County Wireless Task Force Committee (Update)

Mark reported that a letter was sent to all local units of governments requesting information on public properties and structures that could potentially be used for the placement of a pole or antenna for the wireless network. A list of legal questions was compiled at the last meeting with the local units government and an attorney will be hired to answer those questions. In addition, Mark said a technical telecommunications engineering firm would be hired to review the Request for Proposals (RFP) once they are received. Mark said the RFP's should be mailed by April 15, 2005.

B. Urban Smart Growth Demonstration Project (Update)

Mark reported that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was mailed to architectural firms to develop a design portfolio and create digital renderings for the City of Hudsonville. Several architectural firms have submitted proposals.

C. Road Salt Management Plan (Update)

Mark reported that the Road Salt Committee meetings have been postponed due to the pending litigation against the Ottawa County Road Commission. He reported that a few more wells would be installed in "non-environmentally sensitive" areas to compare salt levels with wells installed in "environmentally sensitive" areas.

D. Roadside Tree Planting (Update)

A meeting was held with the Ottawa County Road Commission and they seem to be receptive to the idea of replacing dying trees on Lakeshore Drive. Mark said a Tree Committee meeting has been scheduled on April 27, 2005 @ 11:00 a.m., to review steps that need to be taken to initiate the project.

E. Citizen Planner (Update)

Mark Knudsen reported that twenty-one (21) individuals have completed the Citizen Planner Program and that the training class was well received.

F. Non-Motorized Pathways – Lakeshore Drive Paved Shoulder

Mark Knudsen said the Ottawa County Road Commission would be unable to participate in this project due to budget restraints. The Road Commission will only be paving a three foot wide shoulder. Mark said that staff has been working to obtain alternative funding that could be used to pave the additional one foot to the shoulder. Mark also reported that Ken Freestone had to step down as Chair of the Ottawa County Friends Committee.

G. Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant – Robinson Township

Mark Knudsen reported that the Planning and Grants Department was able to complete the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant application in three (3) weeks. The application was several hundred-pages and required staff to work well beyond their normal schedule, including weekends, to complete the application. Mark said the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will make a decision regarding the grants no sooner than May 1, 2005.

H. M-104 Tree Preservation

Mark Knudsen reported that a meeting was held with Spring Lake Township officials, MDOT, and the developer of Eastbrook Homes in an attempt to preserve trees selected for removal along the M-104 corridor. Although not all the trees could be preserved, a significant number of them will now be saved.

I. Contract Zoning

Mark said he would provide more information on contract zoning at the next Planning Commission meeting.

J. Weekly Departmental Newsletter

Mark Knudsen said the Planning and Grants Department is going to attempt to e-mail the Planning Commission members a weekly newsletter to update them on the status of meetings, issues, and projects within the department.

K. New Staff Member

Mark Knudsen reported that Chris Clement has been hired to fill one of the Planning and Grants Specialist positions. His primary responsibility will be full-time grant administration. He will also be doing more grant research for county departments and local units of government when needed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to Order (7:00 p.m.)
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Agenda for the March 28, 2005 Meeting
4. Approval of the Minutes from the January 24, 2005 Meeting
5. Announcements (7:10 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.)
 - A. Introductions
 - B. Reports of Meetings Attended
6. Presentations (7:20 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.)
 - A. CORS Presentation – Rick Sauve, Leica Geo Systems
7. Petitions & Communications (7:40 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.)
 - A. FYI Folder
 - B. Electronic Generation, Emissions & GDP Trends: Historical Reductions Plus Clear Skies Act
 - C. Letter of correspondence to Michigan State University, regarding the Urban Smart Growth Project
 - D. Letter of correspondence from Chuck Morgan regarding his opposition to the Farmland Preservation Fund
 - E. Letter of correspondence to Georgetown Township regarding the rezoning of Parcel No. 70-10-31-200-017
 - F. Letter of correspondence to Polkton Township regarding the Application for Farmland Agreement (PA 116) for Parcel Nos. 70-05-20-300-013, 70-05-28-100-005, and 70-05-30-200-003

Motion: To receive for information Item A-F

8. Public Comments (3 Minutes Per Person) (7:50 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
9. Action Items (8:00 p.m. – 8:05 p.m.)
 - A. PA 116 Application for Termination of Floyd & Doanne Link's property (Parcel No. 70-01-04-100-004) in Chester Township

Motion: To support/not support the PA 116 Application for Termination of Floyd & Doanne Link's property (Parcel No. 70-01-04-100-004) in Chester Township

10. Discussion Items (8:05 p.m. – 8:35 p.m.)
 - A. Ottawa County Wireless Task Force Committee (Update)

- B. Urban Smart Growth Demonstration Project (Update)
 - C. Road Salt Management Plan (Update)
 - D. Roadside Tree Planting (Update)
 - E. Citizen Planner (Update)
 - F. Non-Motorized Pathways – Lakeshore Drive Paved Shoulder
 - G. Pre-Mitigation Disaster Grant – Robinson Township
 - H. M-104 Tree Preservation
 - I. Contract Zoning
 - J. Weekly Departmental Newsletter
 - K. New Staff Member
11. Adjournment (8:35 p.m.)