

ONEIDA CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2024
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN KILGORE, MEMBERS GREEN, HAFNER, SCHROEDER, SCHERER, & STEVENS

MEMBERS EXCUSED: MEMBER DEMBOWSKI

OTHERS PRESENT: ZONING ADMINISTRATOR GOSCHKA, BOARD MEMBER SCHULTZ, BOARD MEMBER LAWRY, PLANNING COMMISSION SECRETARY PEÑA-KLANECKY AND OTHERS LISTED ON THE SIGN-IN SHEET.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Additions to agenda: None
4. Draft Minutes of January 3, 2024: Member Schroeder motioned to approve the minutes as written, supported by Chairman Kilgore. Motion carried.
5. Public Comment: Rick Jones spoke to the group regarding the Michigan Board of State Canvassers recently approving summary language for a proposed ballot initiative that aims to repeal a law that allows the state to override local regulations of large wind and solar projects. "Citizens for Local Choice" began gathering signatures in hopes of reversing Public Act 233, a law passed in November that established statewide permitting standards for large-scale renewable energy projects that had previously been permitted at the local level. If anyone is interested in signing the petition or in collecting signatures, please contact Rick Jones.
6. Chairman Kilgore moved to open the meeting to a Public Hearing to discuss the Storage Container Zoning Ordinance, Member Green supported the motion. Motion carried. Board Member Lawry asked for an update on what the Storage Container Zoning Ordinance entails, along with residents asking various questions. Chairman Kilgore explained the difference between temporary and permanent containers; he defined the larger containers; explained the different uses of the containers; resident questioned why there is no size limitation on permanent containers; the number of containers permitted per acreage; mandated set back areas allowed; and if the Zoning Administrator can make decisions based on his/her discretion. Chairman Kilgore motioned to close the Public Hearing. Member Schroeder supported. Motion carried. The Planning Commission reviewed the draft presented by Williams & Works – Section A. Temporary Storage Containers, letter c: Add an additional item – iii. More than two (2) storage containers may be allowed at the Zoning Administrator's discretion. B. Permanent Storage Containers #4, insert "(2)"; and ix regarding if the principal structure is a workshop. Waiting to hear back from Williams & Works. The Planning Commission will continue to do additional work on the Ordinance. It was recommended that a 2nd public hearing will be needed by the Board of Trustees to adopt the Ordinance.

7. Chairman Kilgore moved to open the meeting to a Public Hearing to discuss the Parking Restrictions Zoning Ordinance Amendment. Member Green support the motion. Motion carried. Discussion took place and it was decided that right-of-way is not considered off-street parking areas. Section 17.05, Section 1 A. (include) exception of commercial vehicles; B. (as written) It shall be unlawful for any person to park or store any motor vehicle (add wording) "on the property" without the express written consent of the owner, holder, occupant, lessee, agent or trustee of the property. Zoning Administrator Goschka to consult Williams & Works to add "right-of-way of owner". Member Hafner asked if the owner of the property can park in their own right-of-way? Additional comments - keep E & F separate; Member Green (letter G) recommendation after service roads, or (add) "right-of-ways"; letter I delete wording "off, or" on-street parking area. Chairman Kilgore motioned to close the Public Hearing with Member Hafner supporting. Motion carried. The Planning Commission continued discussion. Member Scherer questioned open air businesses, Member Hafner approved the way it was written and discussed different scenarios and does not agree with letter D. The Planning Commission asked if Williams & Works are able to help with this. Member Hafner suggested that letter G be passed separating and then work on the remainder later. Not recommended to only pass small portions at a time due to the lengthy adoption process. Williams & Works will be attending the March 5 Planning Commission Meeting.
8. Sign Ordinance Review Discussion: Chairman Kilgore asked what process was previously used for signs and how they are posted in the Ordinance. Member Goschka mentioned that we cannot look at the sign content. Chairman Kilgore discussed the version that Williams & Works put together and the original Oneida document in place. He favored the original Oneida document and proposed that Williams & Works be notified of this. Secretary Peña-Klanecky to update the current working draft by deleting all other townships listed and only keeping Oneida Township information, adding page numbers, and resend out to the Planning Commission.
9. Correspondence – Zoning Administrator Goschka reported that Eaton County is working on their Master Plan, Public Hearing to be held on April 23, 2024. This correspondence will also be going to the Board of Trustees.
10. Public Comment: Board Member Lawry does not agree with the Parking Restrictions Ordinance, Section 17.05, letter D. She feels that additional problems will arise from construction trucks and trailers parking on both sides of the road. Member Hafner suggested that we add "width in the road" as written in the ordinance. Another resident suggested that additional discussion should take place regarding trailers, equipment, etc. Mr. & Ms. Williams thanked the Planning Commission for all the work and time committed to the parking issues, especially on Burt Avenue. Mr. Weaver encouraged the Planning Commission to get more involved with the City of Grand Ledge in the urban plan area and be proactive and know what their vision is.
11. Adjourn Meeting: Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Goschka, Zoning Administrator and Jackie Peña-Klanecky, Planning Commission Secretary.

APPROVED:



JUSTIN KILGORE, CHAIRMAN