

Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes for: Monday, January 8, 2024

Commissioners:

Name	Present	Absent
Barry Visel (Chairman)	x	
David Aubry (Vice Chairman)	x	
Rich Bailey	x	
Eric Jasiak	x	
Tamra Stafford (Ex Officio)	x	
Jim Jastifer	x	
Nathan Miersma	x	

Also present:

Name	Description
Don Ulsh	Township Supervisor
Brian Pittelko	W.E. Upjohn Institute Representative
Christine Hamilton	Zoning Administrator

Call to order: Commissioner Visel opened the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Approval of agenda:

Chairman Visel suggested re-ordering the agenda to discuss the site plan first, followed by the remainder of the agenda items; Commissioner Jasiak motioned to approve, supported Commissioner Stafford. Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Chairman Visel motioned to approve the meeting minutes from December 4, 2023. The motion was supported by Commissioner Stafford. Motion carried 7-0.

Public comments / citizen time:

None

New business:

1. Site Plan – Vicksburg Storage LLC
 - a. Commissioner Aubry motioned to approve the request as meeting all site plan requirements per section 24 of the zoning ordinance, but requires additional updates contingent on lighting conforming to zoning ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Miersma. Motion carried 7-0
2. Master Plan Update
 - a. The Current Land Use map (on page 22) appears to be partially updated, but requires additional updates to reflect accurate land uses
 - b. Norfolk Southern Railroad now leased by Grand Elk Railroad
 - c. Several typographical errors were noted on page 39 under key takeaways, which need to be corrected
 - d. Chairman Visel suggested that an additional goal of reducing non-conforming use and split-zoned properties be incorporated
 - e. Commissioner Aubry suggested that the draft 2024 Master Plan be added to the agenda for the upcoming Township Board meeting on January 9, 2024, to request from the Township Board authorization to distribute the Plan. This was seconded by Commissioner Jastifer. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Fence definition
 - a. A proposed definition of a fence was reviewed and discussed.
 - b. Commissioner Bailey motioned to set a public hearing to amend the ordinance to include a definition of “fence,” seconded by Commissioner Jastifer. Motion passed 7-0.

Old business:

1. None

Report from the Township Board:

Commissioner Stafford provided a summary report of the township board activities:

- The Board reviewed the proposed budget for the fire authority
- A township budget workshop is scheduled for January 9, 2024 at 12:00pm

Report from the Zoning Board of Appeals:

1. None

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm by Chairman Visel.