

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF UNION
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Charter Township of Union Planning Commission was held on June 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Township Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Buckley, Gross, McDonald, Olver, Shingles, Squattrito, and Thering
Excused: Lapp

Others Present

Rodney Nanney, Community and Economic Development Director; Peter Gallinat, Zoning Administrator;
Tera Green, Administrative Assistant

Chair Squattrito designated Commissioner Olver as temporary Secretary.

Approval of Agenda

Gross moved McDonald supported to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes

Olver moved Shingles supported to approve the May 21, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Correspondence / Reports/ Presentations

- A. Board of Trustees updates by Thering – Gave updates on the May 22nd and June 12th Board of Trustees Meetings.
- B. ZBA updates by Buckley – No updates were given.
- C. Planning Commission acknowledged correspondence from the City of Mount Pleasant with Intent to update the Master Plan
- D. Planning Commission acknowledged correspondence from Ben Gunning and Commissioner Shingles regarding the proposed Sidewalk and Pathway Ordinance
- E. Community and Economic Development Monthly Report
- F. Other Reports

Public Comment

Open 7:12 p.m.

No comments were offered.

Closed 7:13 p.m.

New Business

- A. **Review of the Proposed Sidewalk and Pathway Ordinance.**
 - a. Introduction by staff
 - b. Commission discussion and questions
 - c. Commission deliberation and action (recommendation to the board of Trustees for adoption, adoption with additional recommended changes, or rejection)

Nanney reviewed the memo dated June 11th, 2024 highlighting key elements of the updated ordinance. It was noted that the new Sidewalk and Pathway Ordinance has been developed in

consultation with the Township Engineer and Township Attorney to address the deficiencies identified in Ordinance No. 2009-03. The memo addressed revisions to items brought up during the May 21st meeting.

The commissioners deliberated on the updates, with Commissioner Buckley highlighting the confusion between Ordinance and Policy. There was extensive conversation concerning the language in Section 4.B subsection 4, “the Board of Trustees may also propose a cost-sharing mechanism” and subsection 5 “the Board of Trustees may require a property owner to post a cash deposit in lieu of construction”.

Olver moved **Shingles** supported to recommend to the Board of Trustees that the proposed Sidewalk and Pathway Ordinance with a draft date of June 11, 2024 be adopted as presented with the following change to strike section 4.B.4 and 4.B.5 until a policy is adopted for its implementation. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Buckley, Gross, Olver, Shingles, and Squattrito. Nays: McDonald and Thering. Motion carried.**

B. Review of the Sidewalk and Pathway Construction Policy update

- a. Introduction by staff
- b. Commission discussion and questions
- c. Commission deliberation and action (recommendation to the board of Trustees for adoption, adoption with additional recommended changes, or rejection)

Nanney presented the proposed updates to the Sidewalk and Pathway Construction Policies for review and for any recommendations to the Board of Trustees. Nanney highlighted the deficiencies in the current policies, noting the enforcement challenges with the way it is currently written. Nanney then provided a summary of the proposed policies outlined in the document.

The commissioners discussed the proposed changes and expressed that they would like to further discuss this topic at their next meeting before making a recommendation. They also requested to review a map of the designated roads.

Buckley moved **Shingles** supported to postpone action until July 16th for further discussion. **all Vote: Ayes: Buckley, Gross, McDonald, Olver, Shingles, Squattrito, and Thering. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

Extended Public Comments

Open: 9:22 p.m.

Ben Gunning, 2280 E Broomfield Rd., expressed satisfaction with the discussion at the meeting. Moving forward, it is pertinent to address concerns with the policy regarding eliminating relief in the industrial zones. Mr. Gunning commented on Commissioner Shingles’ email correspondence.

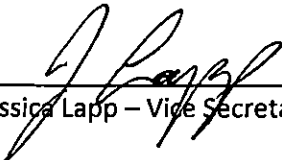
Closed 9:27 p.m.

Final Board Comment

Adjournment – Chair Squattrito adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

(Recorded by Tera Green)



Jessica Lapp – Vice Secretary