

FRENCHTOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2022

SIG   
**APPROVED**

The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom and was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call: Paul Thoma Dennis Staelgraeve Hillary Venier  
Don Abrams Chris Collins Brian Dotson

Absent: Fred Calkins

Also present:

Mark Mathe, Mannik & Smith Group, Township Engineer  
Lucie Fortin, Mannik & Smith Group, Township Planner  
Mario Ortega, McKenna Associates, Township Planning Consultant  
Cindy Allor, acting Planning Commission Recording Secretary

0 interested citizen

0 interested citizens via ZOOM

A quorum being present, Chairman Paul Thoma called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. This meeting was held under the Open Meetings Act.

All those present were requested by Chairperson Thoma to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item No. 1 Agenda Approval.**

**Motion**

Moved By: Dennis Staelgraeve Supported By: Brian Dotson MUC

A motion was made to approve the agenda.

**Item No. 2 Minutes May 5, 2022, Meeting.**

**Motion**

Moved By: Hillary Venier

Supported By: Brian Dotson

MUC

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 5, 2022, Planning Commission meeting after Ms. Venier pointing out that bulleted items have been provided by Planner in ITEM. NO 6(b).

**Item No. 3 Minutes of June 16, 2022, Meeting.**

**Motion**

Moved By: Don Abrams

Supported By: Dennis Staelgraeve

MUC

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the June 16, 2022, Planning Commission meeting as presented.

**Item No. 4 Minutes of July 21, 2022, Meeting.**

**Motion**

Moved By: Hillary Venier

Supported By: Brian Dotson

MUC

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the June 16, 2022, Planning Commission meeting as presented and noting rationale from citizen on page 5.

**Item No. 5 DISCUSSION of ZONING ORDINANCE**

Mario Ortega presented the clean version and gave members the corrections, additions, and suggestions from the township attorney. Members made comments. Mr. Ortega to revise and bring back to the Planning Commission.

Mario to add information after board discussion/ Camp Lord Willing, sheds, # of RV, boats etc, Air BNB.

**Motion**

Moved By: Hillary Venier

Supported By: Dennis Staelgraeve

MUC

A motion to accept and place on file the following correspondence:

Mario Ortega's letter dated August 18, 2022; the Township Attorney comments on Draft Zoning Ordinance.

**Motion**

Moved By: Hillary Venier Supported By: Don Abrams MUC

A motion was made to open public comment.

**Motion**

Moved By: Dennis Staelgraeve Supported By: Don Abrams MUC

A motion was made to close the public comment.

Ms. Lucie Fortin spoke regarding Zoning map changes.

Lucie to provide information.

**MOTION**

Moved By: Hillary Venier Supported By: Chris Collins

A motion was made to approve putting the final draft of the Township Zoning Ordinance on hold until Mr. Ortega has attorney revisions complete.

Board members commented they would like a version of the draft to be available on the website in addition to being available at the township hall for viewing.

Roll Call: Thoma-Y Staelgraeve-Y Abrams-Y Venier-Y Dotson-Y Collins-Y

6-YES votes 0-NO votes MUC

Chairman Thoma expressed an interest in wanting to see all public hearings be on the Township front splash page. Board members made comments.

**Item No. 6 Old Business.**

Board members discussed the proposed gas station at the Monroe Street/Telegraph split, and if it's moving forward. Chairman Thoma stated as far as we are aware, it is.

**Item No. 6 New Business.**

There were no citizens remaining to open the floor for questions, comments, or concerns to the Planning Commission.

The Board members discussed the hours and days of the recycling center and hoping to see additional hours or days. Mr. Collins answered questions and provided information given to the Township Board by Steven's Disposal.

Mr. Staelgraeve questioned a site on Monroe Street that is currently filling in the area with blacktop. There is a concern that wetlands are possibly being filled in. Mr. Collins will reach out to Mr. Storey, Township Blight Officer. Members stated if we enforce this issue with other sites we need to do so at every site.

Members discussed how early Steven's is collecting the trash.

**Item No. 7 Administrative Reviews Update.**

- ZBA Report, updated members that the August case was approved and nothing on September agenda.
- Planning Commission report from Paul Thoma, Planning Commission Chair

**Item No. 8 Adjournment.**

**Motion**

Moved By: Don Abrams

Supported By: Dennis Staelgraeve

MUC

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M.