



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board

Regular Meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2017

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board meeting was called to order by Chairman John Westman at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday February 15, 2017 at the Webster Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman John Westman, members Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares and consultant Barry Lonik.

Members absent: Susan Cooley and Jerry Nordblom

Approve Minutes:

Motion Cares, second Bloomer to approve the open and closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting held on January 2, 2017 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Chairman's Remarks:

Westman stated that members Cooley and Nordblom would be absent.

Approve Agenda:

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to approve the February 15, 2017 agenda as amended to correct the day from Monday to Wednesday. All ayes, motion carried.

Call to Public:

None present

Review Bills:

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to recommend that the township board of trustees approve and pay the January invoices from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Reports

Township Board

Westman stated that the BOT approved our requested expenditure not to exceed \$2,500 for an appraisal of property identified in application 2015-3.

Consultant:

Lonik stated that he has identified a target group of about thirty five properties that have potential for our program but have not submitted applications. A letter explaining the program will be mailed to these property owners in the near future. The county parks commission has about 2.7 million dollars remaining in its acquisition fund.

Greenbelt:

Cares reported that the Greenbelt Commission is working to simplify their scoring system. A bus tour of protected properties will be conducted on June 10, 2017. Graduate students from the U of M are evaluating a project to determine the economic impact of the Greenbelt.

Old Business

A. Easement monitoring

No update.

Closed Session:

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to close the open session at 7:08 p.m. and go into closed session in order to discuss confidential applications to the PDR program.

Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. The WTFOSPB returned to open session and was called to order by Chair Westman at 8:04 pm.

New Business:

A. Budget recommendation

The proposed budget for next year was discussed. Motion Cares, second Bloomer to recommend that the line item for legal expenses be increased to \$6000. All ayes, motion carried. No other changes were recommended.

B. Motions:

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to recommend to the BOT that it approve the expenditure of PDR funds not to exceed \$47,100 for the purchase of development rights on property identified on application 2009-3. Roll call. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to recommend to the BOT that it approve the expenditure of PDR funds not to exceed \$15,000 for the purchase of development rights on property identified on application 2011-4. Roll call. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to recommend to the BOT that it approve the expenditure of PDR funds not to exceed \$206,630 for the purchase of development rights on property identified on application 2015-1. All ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence:

None received

Call to Public:

None present.

Adjournment:

Motion Bloomer, second Cares to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Westman

Chair, WTFOSPB

