

Minutes

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

1. **Call to Order** - *Vice-Chair Belson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.*
2. **Roll Call**

Members Present:; *Denese Belson; Samuel Fry; Peter Merritt; Steve Lanius; Michael Clark; Jack McLain*
Members Absent: *Troy Reehl, Secretary - Excused; Namrata Carolan, Chair - Excused*
Public Present: *Nicolas Wheeler; Brad Benzinger*
3. **Public Comment** - *None*
4. **Correspondences**
 - a. *Southern Towers BTS, LP - Jonesville Road - New Tower Submission - The notice of submission was acknowledged by the Planning Commission.*
5. **Approval of Minutes** - *Motion by Clark to approve the March 20, 2024 minutes. Second by Merritt. Approved unanimously.*
6. **Approval of Agenda** - *Motion by Lanius to approve the May 15, 2024 agenda. Second by Merritt. Approved unanimously.*
7. **Public Hearings** - *No public hearings scheduled.*
8. **Unfinished Business** - *None*
9. **New Business**
 - a. **Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program Applications**
 - i. **Wright Township - Leininger (Section 20 T8S R1W 27.7 acres m/l)**
Program Type: **Farmland Development Rights Agreement** - *Motion by Fry to recommend approval of the application. Second by Clark. Approved unanimously.*
 - b. **Discussion on changing meeting time** - *Motion by Merritt to keep the 2024 Meeting Scheduled times as originally approved. Second by Clark. Approved unanimously.*
10. **Any Other Business/On-going Business**
 - a. **Continued discussion on update of Master Plan**

There was some discussion on the presentation Harmony Fierke-Gmazel from Michigan State University Extension gave at the March meeting. Fry moved to schedule the educational program titled "Updating and Implementing a Master Plan" for 2:00 pm after the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Hillsdale County Planning Commission on July 17, 2024 pending Ms. Fierke-Gmazel's availability. Second by Clark. The motion approved unanimously. Further discussion on alternate plans should Ms. Fierke-Gmazel not be available on July 17th include a

potential special meeting being called. It was the consensus of those in attendance that upon confirmation of the program being scheduled that all Hillsdale County Municipalities be notified of this event via electronic mail and that officials from the municipalities be invited and that the cost to attend be paid by either the municipality or the individual attending.

11. Public Comment - None

12. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Merritt. Second by Clark. Approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Namrata Carolan, Chair

Recorded by: Nicolas Wheeler, Equalization Director, County of Hillsdale