

**Marquette Township Planning Commission – Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 11, 2015 – 7 p.m.  
Marquette Township Community Center**

Chairperson Sargent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lyn Durant, Dave Wiegand, Jim Johnson, Ellen Sargent, Steve Peltó

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jason McCarthy – Planner/ZA, Janelle Ruff – Planning & Zoning Technician

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike Springer – Recreation Committee Chairperson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION:** *To approve the agenda.*

*Pelto, Moved  
Durant, Supported*

**Carried: Unanimously**

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** January 14, 2015

**MOTION:** *To approve the minutes, as amended.*

*Wiegand, Moved  
Durant, Supported*

**Carried: Unanimously**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Springer presented the Recreation Committee's plan to apply for two (2) recreation grants for 2015. He detailed the proposed projects for both the Lions Field Recreation Area and the Schwemwood Park/IOHT Trailhead. He also requested that a Public Hearing on the matter take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, in order to receive input from the public on the proposed grant applications. He requested that if approved by the Planning Commission, that the Planning Commission forward it to the Township Board for consideration.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Outdoor Lighting Ordinance Language – Discussion**

Sargent recommended that "*light trespass*" be worded differently so that the interpretation is clear.

Wiegand stated that when he read "*light source*," it meant the *light bulb* itself.

*After a discussion on the current version of the draft Outdoor Lighting Ordinance, changes that the Planning Commission agreed upon are listed below:*

**A. PURPOSE**

*This section of the ordinance is intended to:*

- 1) *Promote energy-efficient and sustainable lighting practices and luminaries;*
- 2) *Protect residents and the surrounding environment from the adverse effects of light pollution;*
- 3) *Minimize adverse off-site impacts from new and existing lighting installations;*
- 4) *Permit reasonable uses of outdoor lighting for safety, security, productivity, commerce and enjoyment;*
- 5) *Protect the existing, unique qualities of Marquette Charter Township’s dark sky for astronomy and enjoyment purposes and to continue to attract tourism and commerce.*
- 6) *This ordinance pertains to commercial, multi-family, subdivision and street lighting only.*

**B. APPLICABILITY**

*Exterior lighting shall be installed in such a manner that the light source will be sufficiently obscured to prevent glare on public roads and trespass light in commercial or residential areas. Exterior lighting shall be comprised of a light source and reflector so that, acting together, the light beam is controlled, directed downward, not aimed up or across a property line and is compatible with the surrounding environment. Sodium vapor lighting shall not be permitted.*

**B. APPLICABILITY**

- 2) *Existing Installations. All outdoor lighting installed prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall be considered grand-fathered. All exterior light fixtures must be replaced or retrofitted to bring it into compliance with the applicable standards of this ordinance upon the application of zoning compliance or a building permit for any modification, repair, improvement and/or alteration to a structure, fixture, building, property and/or use.*

**J. PUBLIC ROAD & SUBDIVISION LIGHTING**

*Marquette Township shall ensure that the installation, operation and maintenance of public road and subdivision lighting within the municipal boundaries of the Township occur in the following manner:*

- 1) *Public Road Lighting*
  - a) *At the intersection of two or more public roads, at the entrance to a public cul-de-sac from a public road, or as determined by the Township.*

**K. ENFORCEMENT**

*This ordinance shall be enforced by the Marquette Township Zoning Administrator or designated official, per the provisions in Article XXV – Administration & Enforcement of this Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Administrator or designated official shall investigate suspected violations and issue notices of violation requiring corrective action, and shall have the ability to assign penalties for non-compliance. The Zoning Administrator or designated official shall also have the ability to use the services of an outside expert or lighting consultant to determine if a light fixture or lighting array is in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance; in the event of a violation of the ordinance, the cost of the*

*expert who undertook the lighting evaluation shall be passed onto the owner of the property determined to be in violation.*

### **Capital Improvement Program Planning – Discussion**

Sargent and the Planning Commission approved of the distributed CIP worksheet provided by Planner McCarthy.

Planner McCarthy stated that he will expand the text boxes for more room to type staff requests.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

McCarthy explained that Karen Anderson relayed to him that North Star Academy's Safe Routes to School Grant Application will be approved for \$575,000.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Lions Field Recreation Area Progress – Update**

Wiegand provided an update of the Lions Field Ice Rink and Warming House project. The electrical rough-in complete, the framing rough-in is mostly done and the insulation installation is in-process. The furnace is on and the building is warming-up to get the frost out of the ground.

**MOTION:** *To schedule a Public Hearing for the proposed 2015 Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and Recreation Passport Grant Applications.*

*Wiegand, Moved  
Durant, Supported*

**Carried: Unanimously**

#### **Planning & Zoning Department Project Update**

McCarthy stated that he has received an application for an additional wireless communication tower proposed to be placed on the south side of Marquette Mountain Ski Hill. The Public Hearing for the Special Use Permit and Site Plan Review will be scheduled on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 7 PM.

McCarthy relayed that there is a Site Condominium project proposed to be located on Moran Street in the Urban Residential (UR) Zoning District. He will provide additional information as it becomes available.

McCarthy also said that Dairy Queen is working with Target to purchase a parcel of property from them in order to develop a Dairy Queen store. More information will be available in the coming months.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS PLANNING COMMISSIONERS WISH TO MAKE:**

Pelto asked to be excused from the March 11, 2015 meeting.

Durant announced that the Township has a new Community Events Committee member. She also stated that the Township will have to give back \$185,000 (from the general fund balance) in tax revenue once the bill is received from the state as a result of the Tax Tribunal case.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

***MOTION: To adjourn the Planning Commission meeting.***

***Pelto, Moved***

***Durant, Supported***

**Carried: Unanimously**

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Lyn Durant, Secretary