



ADA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Ada Township Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 8:00 a.m., at the Ada Township Hall, Assembly Room, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada MI.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Korth, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Butterfield, Carter, Easter, Korth

Members Absent: Burton, Heglund, Jacobs

Staff Present: Bajdek, Buckley, Said, Suchy

Others Present: 1

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Master Plan – Proposal Reviews/Interviews

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.: Progressive AE

Commission member, Dan Carter, pointed out that his daughter in law works for Progressive AE. He assured the Commissioners he would be fair and impartial on the subject matter, and the Commission agreed that no conflict of interest exists.

Mausharie Valentine and Suzanne Schulz of Progressive AE presented an overview of the background and experiences of Progressive AE and shared information about the team members involved in the project.

They went over and explained: the project timeline and processes, March 2022 – July 2023; the process of community input and stakeholder meetings and developing a community profile; the opportunity and challenges for Ada and managing growth strategy; and concluded with the implementation process and the final plan.

Ms. Schulz said the Master Plan is like a mobilizing agent where the community gathers a consensus and the community goes and does something with it.

There was a question-and-answer session amongst the Commissioners, planning staff, and candidates concerning the scope of the project, including public engagement strategies, timeframe, and major tasks. The Planning Commission thanked the candidates for their presentation.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.: McKenna

Chris Khorey, Adam Cook, and James Kilborn of McKenna introduced themselves and gave a brief summary of their background and experiences working on community projects.

They went over and explained: the opportunities of a master plan; logistical aspects of the process and schedule, including assembling a steering committee; surveying the community; challenges such as preservation vs growth; projecting demand for development in the future. They also talked about the next steps in the village and developments in the township.

There was a question-and-answer session amongst the Commissioners, planning staff, and candidates concerning the scope of the project, how the township fits in the structure of the county; the area outside the village; applying lessons from the past; and the process. The Planning Commission thanked the candidates for their presentation.

Board Discussion

There was Board discussion about the two consulting firms regarding; the timeline, cost/budget per fiscal year, the value on housing and neighboring communities, infrastructure, and overall presentation comparisons. The commissioners concluded that Progressive AE should be selected for this project.

Moved by Carter, supported by Easter, to recommend approval to the Township Board, of Progressive AE as the Master Plan consultants. Motion carried 4-0, with 3 absent.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

V. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Carter, supported by Butterfield, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. Motion carried 4-0, with 3 absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Smith, Ada Township Clerk

rs:eb