

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

**July 24, 2014**

The City of Portage Planning Commission meeting of July 24, 2014 was called to order by Chairman Welch at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of Portage City Hall, 7900 South Westnedge Avenue. Approximately nine citizens were in attendance.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chairman Welch led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Christopher Forth, Deputy Director of Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services

### **ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Forth called the roll and the following Commissioners were present: Richmond, Somers, Schimmel, Felicijan, Welch, Dargitz, Stoffer and Patterson. Chairman Welch indicated that Commissioner Bosch requested to be excused from the meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Felicijan, seconded by Commissioner Dargitz, to approve the roll excusing Commissioner Bosch. The motion was unanimously approved 8-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Welch referred the Commission to the June 19, 2014 meeting minutes contained in the agenda packet. Commissioners Felicijan and Dargitz stated they would be abstaining from voting on the minutes since they were not present at the meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Somers, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved 6-0-2.

### **SITE/FINAL PLANS:**

None.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. 2014 Comprehensive Plan – Final Document. Mr. Forth indicated staff had provided to the Commission the final printed version of the 2014 Comprehensive Plan and noted the appendices (Community Snapshot, Public Input Summary and Lake Center Market Study) are on a CD located at the end of the document. Additionally, Mr. Forth stated staff was in the process of developing the FY2014-2015 Work Plan that will include evaluating the Implementation Strategies contained in Chapter 7 and would identify the top 5-10 strategies that can then be reviewed and prioritized with the Planning Commission during discussion of the Planning Commission Work Plan on August 21, 2014. Mr. Forth suggested the Commission members also review the implementation strategies prior to the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting with the intent to identify the top 5-10 strategies.

2. Schoolcraft Township Future Land Map Amendment. Mr. Forth summarized the staff report regarding the proposed Schoolcraft Township amendment to the Future Land Use Map component of the Schoolcraft Township Master Plan. The amendment involves changing an approximate 78 acre tract of land from the Rural Preservation planning classification to the Agricultural Preservation planning classification. The three properties in question are situated along the south side of East Y Avenue, east of South 21<sup>st</sup> Street, approximately five miles south of the City of Portage corporate boundary. Pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Schoolcraft Township is requesting review and comment from all contiguous municipalities

and other required agencies. A public hearing to consider the amendment is scheduled for the August 4, 2014 Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Forth stated staff has reviewed the proposed Future Land Use Map Amendment and does not have any specific comments. The Planning Commission also had no specific comments so a motion was offered by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Stoffer, that the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed Schoolcraft Township Future Land Use Map amendment and did not have any specific comments. The motion was unanimously approved 8-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**STATEMENT OF CITIZENS:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Welch indicated he will not be present during the August 21, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Stoffer asked about the outcome of the East Centre rezoning application (Application No. 14-2) during the July 22, 2014 City Council meeting. Mr. Forth indicated City Council approved a zoning change involving all parcels of land from B-3, general business to B-1, local business with the exception of the west five feet of 710 East Centre Avenue (to remain zoned R-1A) and the north 50 feet of 907, 913 and 923 Pasma, which are to be rezoned from B-3 to R-1A. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Forth, AICP  
Deputy Director of Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services