

**VILLAGE OF HINCKLEY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 4, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pritchard at 7:00 PM.

Present: Chairman Robert Pritchard, Matt Bish, Steven Kreitzer, Rebecca Von Drasek, Jennifer Klambauer, and John McFarland. Quorum Established.

Absent: Danielle Marion.

Also Present: Trustee Mike Constant, Village Clerk Elizabeth Losiniecki, and members of the public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge to the flag was recited.

COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT:

None.

AGENDA ITEM: Previous Meeting Minutes – 12/04/21 Presentation and Vote

Steven Kreitzer moved to approve the meeting minutes from 11/01/21 and Rebecca Von Drasek seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Marion-Aye, Bish-Aye, Von Drasek-Aye, Kreitzer-Aye, Pritchard-Aye, Klambauer-Abstain. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

° **Agenda items for discussion:** Review and Discuss 2003 Land Use Plan

Pritchard reviewed the process for updating the plan, including the need to seek public comment/input. For now, he'd like the commission members to review the property south of the railroad tracks and creek and provide comments at the next meeting. He also asked members to consider if they think the current land use plan reflects too much growth and if the housing plan for south of the tracks should be reconsidered.

Kreitzer mentioned the need to consider green space(s) for parks or path along the creek.

Pritchard suggested considering expanding the village limits north of town to Phillips Road. Von Drasek stated that if the Village annexed properties, there is no obligation to follow the land use plan, but the plan would allow for such development, if desired.

Pritchard questioned the current plan for industrial development south of Route 30 (north of Jericho Road) and Von Drasek suggested that the Village should rather be considering if they want (existing) industrial use to continue in the downtown area.

Pritchard asked members to consider if the Village needs more multi-family housing.

° **Agenda items for discussion:** Review Harvesting Our Future Economic Development Plan (pgs. 16-20)

For the purposes of the grant application, Pritchard asked what else should be considered other than: goals, strategies, tactics, residential, downtown, small business, and marketing.

Von Drasek suggested blending the downtown focus group with the small business group to address marketing needs. Pritchard stated that he is trying to get some items on the agenda for the next Hinckley Business Association meeting.

° **Agenda items for discussion:** Community Economic Development Implementation Grant (Community Foundation)

Von Drasek suggested that some of the grant money could be used to help fund the updating of the land use map and comprehensive plan. She also suggested developing a brochure.

Pritchard asked members to pick three areas of focus and proposed the idea of implementing mentors for new small businesses. He asked members to try to decide what would best attract new residents/businesses to come to town.

Pritchard stated that Mim Evans, NIU, suggested focusing on implementation for the grant application. Kreitzer stated that goals needed to be identified and that they need to be objective and measurable.

Von Drasek will send the DRAFT grant application to members for review and will then send it to Mim for review. Pritchard stated that the grant opens in February and he doesn't want to wait too long.

NEW BUSINESS

° **Agenda items for discussion:** Park Land in Royal Estates

Clerk Losiniecki stated that a resident had inquired about a "special needs" park for kids with special needs. These parks are becoming more common in the suburbs. It was suggested that the Village consider adding one in the vicinity of Royal Estates as a draw for potential new residents. It was also suggested that the Village may consider trading and/or otherwise acquiring vacant lots near Royal Estates for the development of such a park.

There was a brief discussion about access to ponds (detention) for fishing and Losiniecki stated that most "ponds/lakes" in Hinckley are privately owned and not open to the public for fishing.

PLANNING COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, PROJECT UPDATES AND OTHER INFORMATION

Von Drasek stated that the training that she attended with Pritchard for DeKalb County Planning Commissioners was beneficial. She will share the PowerPoint presentation with members when it is available.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: John McFarland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm and Rebecca Von Drasek seconded the motion. Voice vote: all in favor. Motion carried.

Robert Pritchard, Chairman

Elizabeth Losiniecki, Village Clerk