

**VILLAGE OF HINCKLEY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Pritchard called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

PRESENT:

Chairman Robert Pritchard, Rebecca Von Drasek, Frank Bartels, Steven Kreitzer, Tim Sellers -
Quorum Established.

ABSENT:

Sharlene Thomason, Matt Bish

ALSO PRESENT:

Trustee, Mike Constant , & Members of the Public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES PRESENTATION & VOTE:

Approval of the Minutes from the March 4, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting.

Chairman Pritchard asked for a motion to approve the March 4, 2024 meeting minutes as written; Member VonDrasek made the motion to approve which was seconded by Member Kreitzer.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Robert Pritchard- Aye, Rebecca Von Drasek – Aye, Frank Bartels - Aye, Steven Kreitzer – Aye,
Time Sellers – Aye, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Discussion Proposed Landscape Regulations

Chairman Pritchard advised he posted the notice of the public discussion on the Hinckley Gazette where people posted numerous comments on the proposed landscape regulations. Based on some of the comments it appears people never read the document.

Chairman Pritchard further related a lot of the provisions in the proposed landscape regulations were derived from the current Hinckley Tree Code Ordinance.

Chairman Pritchard reiterated the purpose landscape ordinance is to help educate the public on the value of Landscaping & to provide consistent landscape requirements.

Chairman Pritchard asked the members if they had any comments.

Member VonDrasek suggested removing the arborist bond (62-78 Section 6) & Under 62-77 (Landscape Plan) Section 4 add a subsection (h) which would require nonresidential structures and buildings to have foundation & (Sign) plantings.

Member of the Public, Victor Viland, spoke inquiring about the arborists bond where he asked if an individual takes down their own tree would they be required to have insurance. Chairman Pritchard advised the section only pertains to firms engaged in the business or occupation of treating or removing trees within the village.

Mr. Viland related that he is not in favor of having pine trees near an intersection or fire hydrants. Chairman Pritchard advised the ordinance addresses the distance from intersections and fire hydrants.

Mr. Viland asked if trees can be planted in the parkway. Chairman Pritchard advised trees (depending on the size) need to be planted 3' to 4' back from the sidewalk or curb line.

Mr. Viland related that he does not like the idea of putting landscaping around utility boxes due to the work involved if the box or contents need to be repaired.

Member Von Drasek responded to Mr. Viland's statement; she stated the screening of utilities is a less expensive mechanism used to make the architecture more aesthetically pleasing. The Landscape Plan is the mechanism that the community can use to remind the property owners that there are standards.

Mr. Viland asked if the village was going to plant trees in the park. Chairman Pritchard advised the Village Board "approved" planting a tree in the park.

Mr. Viland also asked if the village could allocate one thousand dollars a year to plant trees.

Chairman Pritchard thanked Mr. Viland for speaking.

OLD BUSINESS:

Recommendation / Vote to Forward the Landscape Regulations to the Village Board

Chairman Pritchard asked for a motion to forward the Landscape Regulations to the village board; Member VonDrasek made the motion to forward the amended Landscape Regulations to the village board which was seconded by Member Bartels.

Prior to the vote Trustee, Constant, asked the commission members their position on the existing ordinance, and will the landscape regulations replace it.

Member Von Drasek stated “when you say replace it” this is being added into a particular section where the landscape regulations is nonexistent.

Trustee Contant related the ordinance in 2018 that established the tree board also specifies the types of tress and licensing, and there could be a conflict between ordinances.

Chairman Pritchard advised the village attorney is reviewing the ordinances to determine if a conflict exists.

Chairman Pritchard asked for a vote on the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Robert Pritchard – Aye, Rebecca Von Drasek – Aye, Frank Bartels – Aye, Steve Kreitzer – Aye, Tim Sellers – Aye, Motion Carried.

PLANNING COMMISION COMMENTS, PROJECT UPDATES, OTHER INFORMATION:

Chairman Pritchard advised he observed an employee of Casey’s was walking on the south side of Rt. 30 where there was no sidewalk. Due to the new businesses this could be a become a common recurrence.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Pritchard asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Member Kreitzer made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Member Von Drasek.

ALL IN-FAVOR VOTE:

Chairman Robert Pritchard – Aye, Rebecca Von Drasek – Aye, Frank Bartels – Aye, Steven Kreitzer – Aye.

Chairman, Robert Pritchard

Deputy Clerk, John P. Weibler

