

Portland Township
Ionia County, MI
P.O. Box 314
Portland, MI 48875
Portlandtownship.org

The Portland Township board met on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 6:30pm for a New Township Hall special meeting to prepare for public question and answer time for the December 2022 board meeting.

All board members were in attendance. Jim Horman and Jeanne Vandersloot attended via zoom. Michelle Huhn, Chris Roof, Keith Cook and Nic Schneider also attended in person.

The board discussed the pros and cons for the location of the hall being placed along Grand River as opposed to the central eastern part of the lot behind the drainage ditch; costs, traffic flow, tax base, land value, road maintenance, future expansion, and visibility. The board seemed to agree the best location would be south of the drainage ditch along the east side of the parcel. With road access off Grand River and following the utility line to the south, the land along Grand River and North of the drainage ditch would be used as a Commercial sale. Supervisor Jensen will check with owner Ted Platte of Glass Master to see what he may be willing to pay for the 1-acre area behind his business. No plans were made for access to connect to Green road at this time. Cost of the road/drive and future upkeep would need to be discussed with the Ionia County Road Commission. Keith Cook recommended upgrading the drainage ditch pipe, a discussion with the Ionia County drain commission will need to be held being a road is being planned to go over this area. The board discussed a future vision for the rest of the property with either Single family homes or Multi family homes, possible recreational areas as well. No decision was made how much land the Township would keep. Mr. Roof noted a desire to possibly lease property for soccer recreation if available. Connection to the City water and Sewer needs to be addressed with the City board. Grant and Financing is being researched. Request for Proposals for the next development phase have been sent out and will be discussed at the December board meeting once received. The Planning Commission will discuss any zoning issues for the property at their December meeting to plan ahead for possible rezoning. A recycle site is a desired future feature for the Township property.

Supervisor Jensen motioned to extend the terms for Marcy Lay and Ross Schneider on the Planning Commission seconded by Trustee Simon and carried.

Trustee VanLente motioned to extend the term for Evelyn Walkington-Jensen on the Zoning Board of Appeals seconded by Trustee Simon and carried.

Zoning Administrator Vandersloot is looking to end her services as the Zoning Administrator for Portland Township in 2023. Nic Schneider is interested in this position; required training for this position is being researched.

Supervisor Jensen motioned to adjourn at 8:00 pm seconded by Trustee VanLente and carried.

Charlene Keilen
Portland Township Clerk