

Minutes of
**PLANNING COMMISSION AND PARK
COMMISSION JOINT MEETING**
May 23, 2023

SPRINGFIELD
CHARTER TOWNSHIP



Sean R. Miller, Clerk

Call to Order: Chairperson Baker called the May 23, 2023, Joint Meeting of the Springfield Township Planning Commission and Park Commission to order at 6:03 p.m. at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350.

Planning Commissioners

in Attendance: Dean Baker, Chair
Jamie Costigan
Ruth Ann Hines
Dave Hopper
Chris Moore
Kevin Sclesky

Absent: George Mansour

Park Commissioners

in Attendance: Roger Bower
Jean Vallad
Diane Baker
Dennis Omell
Ann Loncar

Absent: Angela Spicer
Richard Parke

Consultants Present:

Julia Upfal, Giffels Webster
Stephanie Osborn, Giffels Webster

Staff Present:

Laura Moreau, Supervisor
Joan Rusch, Planning Administrator
Mike Losey, Natural Resources Manager

1. Township Master Plan – Discussion on Roads, Nonmotorized Transportation, and Natural Features/Conservation

Ms. Upfal reviewed the definitions for what is meant by goals, objectives, performance indicators, and action items regarding the Master Plan document. Ms. Upfal reviewed goals, data, and community feedback regarding transportation. One goal is to provide public safety services, roads, and infrastructure to serve the varied needs of residents and businesses in Springfield Township. Another goal is to improve and develop non-motorized transportation options to connect residents throughout the Township. Ms. Upfal provided data on road conditions in the Township and how

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residents use the roads. Key considerations in this area are cost versus benefits, multi-modal pathways, and capital improvement planning.

The Commissioners broke out into small groups to discuss the potential strategies regarding transportation.

Ms. Upfal introduced the next topics of sustainability, conservation, and resiliency. One goal in this area is to protect the quality of vital air, land, and water resources in the Township. Another goal is to preserve the rural character of the Township, while encouraging development opportunities in contextually appropriate locations that meet the current and future needs of Springfield Township residents, businesses, and visitors. Ms. Upfal provided an assessment of the natural resources in the Township. She also reviewed the actions the Township has already taken to protect the natural resources and build resiliency.

The Commissioners discussed in small groups ideas for what additional items they would like to see happen in the Township regarding these topics.

The Commissioners, staff, and planners considered what was discussed in the small group sessions. Items explored included pathway prioritization, cluster housing, community wells and septic systems, water runoff, land conservation, farmland preservation programs, and non-motorized transportation.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment:

Chairperson Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Joan Rusch, Recording Secretary