

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 12th, 2023

5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198

517.853.4000, Town Hall Room, 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chair Blumer, Vice-Chair Trezise, Commissioners Brooks, McConnell, Scales, Shrewsbury, Richards, Snyder

ABSENT: Commissioner McCurtis

STAFF: Senior Planner Brian Shorkey

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Blumer called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Blumer called the roll of the Planning Commission. Commissioner McCurtis was absent.

3. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Trezise moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Scales.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 22nd, 2023 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Scales moved to approve the minutes of May 8th, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner McConnell.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously with friendly amendments.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. None

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. SUP #23012 – The W. Investment Holdings – 1614 W. Grand River Avenue

Senior Planner Shorkey outlined the case for the Planning Commission. He noted that the traffic study done for this case was previously approved in 2019, and it has been found to still be valid. He further noted that the wetlands in the area are being observed with a 20-foot buffer as opposed to a 40-foot buffer due to the size.

Commissioner Brooks questioned why this is the third SUP coming before them that was previously approved in 2019 but needs to be approved again.

Senior Planner Shorkey noted that the initial approval expired, but he couldn't speak as to why the applicant didn't take action previously.

Applicant Ammar Alkhafaji on behalf of W. Investment Holdings (29580 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 1000, Southfield, MI 48034) introduced himself and opened the floor for questions from the Commission. There were no questions for the applicant representative.

Public Hearing closed.

STRAW VOTE: YEAS: Chair Blumer, Vice-Chair Trezise, Commissioners Brooks, McConnell, Scales, Shrewsbury, Snyder

NAYS: Commissioner Richards

Results: 7-1

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. None

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. None

10. MASTER PLAN UPDATE

A. None

Commissioner Brooks inquired about the process of the Master Plan. Senior Planner Shorkey said that Staff would update the Planning Commission at their next meeting.

11. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board Update

None

B. Liaison Reports

Commissioner McConnell spoke on the Environmental Commission. At the last meeting, they started work on encouraging health food systems in the face of climate change. He outlined the key points of said meeting.

Chair Blumer spoke on the Downtown Development Authority. He spoke on their \$140,000 positive balance on their bank account. He also spoke on the proposed façade improvement project.

12. PROJECT UPDATES

A. None

13. PUBLIC REMARKS

Chair Blumer opened public remarks at 7:04 pm.

NONE

Chair Blumer closed public remarks at 7:04 pm.

Informal conversation amongst the Planning Commission on the ongoing road developments across Grand River.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Blumer moved to adjourn.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Blumer adjourned the regular meeting at 7:11 pm.