

VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 9th, 2022, 6:00 P.M.
5283 Main Street (231) 889-3171

Call to order 6:05

Roll Call – Deborah Storms, Susan Halloran, Wendy Kamaloski, Val Long

Accept/Amend Agenda – Lara moved, Debby seconded, approved

July Minutes Approval – Susan moved, Lara seconded, approved

Public Comments (3 Minutes) *on agenda items only* - none

Old Business

Master Plan Review & Revision –

Questions were brainstormed to ask the public for input, focusing on suggestions that would help the Village to know: (1) what to improve and what to keep the same, (2) how to support local businesses and overall quality of life, and (3) what types of grant opportunities the public most wants the Village to seek in order to fund public improvements. Method of input: individual and small group interviews, by Planning Commission members one-on-one with community members and at future public meeting(s). The draft questions and interview format will be discussed at the next meeting.

Possible procedures for implementing the Master Plan, after adoption by the Village Council, were discussed: (1) Apply for grant funding for desired items in the Master Plan (such as, construct improvements to walkability, or seek planning grants for economic development through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation or Michigan Association of Planning); (2) Have a lawyer draw up paperwork to form a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) with the desired funding mechanism (bond or special assessment) and services to be provided by the DDA; (3) Establish a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to help finance redevelopment of blighted, functionally obsolete and contaminated properties.

Public Comments (3 Minutes)

Three members of the public were present and all suggested that a planning consultant be hired to help with the Master Plan, because it is a lot of work and requires specialized knowledge of complex legal strategies, such as DDA formation, in order to take full advantage of grant money and economic development assistance that could help the Village.

Adjourn at 7:42 p.m.