

MINUTES
MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2024
MIFFLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE

ATTENDANCE

Members

Dan Dunmire, Vice Chair
Dan Firth
Joshua Yetter Clark
Kay Semler
William Campbell

Other

Jenny Barron Landis, JRV Visitors Bureau
Sierra Bolger, Lewistown Sentinel

Staff

James Lettiere, Planning Director
Candace Rager, Planning Secretary

Call to Order

Vice Chair Dunmire called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Record of Public Attendance

Dunmire confirmed all present signed the record of attendance.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Dunmire requested a motion to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2024 meeting. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes. Clark seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce

Vice Chair Dunmire introduced Jenny Landis, JRVVB, Executive Director. Jenny gave an overview of the Visitor's Bureau work and an update on their upcoming events. The Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce are different entities. The VB's mission is to spread the word about things to see and do in Mifflin and Juniata Counties. They are a promotional agency and work hard to involve both counties and their events, including current special interest tours that collect all like-minded businesses together. A large part is to spread all of this information out to surrounding areas. Two of the biggest events are the annual Ice Festival and Goose Day. Goose Day is a big economic driver for the county. The Bureau is not a membership driven association but is funded by the hotel occupancy tax. Jenny is available to discuss any information concerning the Visitors Bureau at her office. The handouts provided are included with the monthly meeting minutes.

Subdivision and Land Development Review Committee Report

There are a total of five (5) plans submitted for November.

- One (1) Taptich Engineering, one (1) Sarge Engineering & Surveying, three (3) Wright Land Surveying
- Four (4) plans are under municipal ordinance, one (1) plan is under county ordinance
- Two (2) Minor Subdivisions, two (2) Lot Additions, one (1) Non-Residential Land Development/Lot Addition

The plans are for Jack & Francene Armstrong/Adam & Veronica Hostetler (Armagh Township), Lewistown Cabinet, Inc. (Armagh Township), Justin W. Foulk (Derry Township), A. Carolyn Miller (Union Township), Robert & Gloria Sechrist/Pamela Sechrist (Wayne Township – County Ordinance).

Municipal Subdivision Plans

The committee members reviewed the five submitted plans prior to the meeting. Director Lettiere presented the M & J Land Acquisition/Solar Array & Land Development plans, which had been previously reviewed and conditionally approved. As a result of the fifteen (15) day acceptance or rejection response not being met, the revised plan and comments response were re-reviewed by the committee. After discussion by the engineer, director, and committee members regarding the submitted comments, both plans were conditionally approved. Lettiere recommended the comments for the municipal plans be approved and comments for the county plan be conditionally approved. Dunmire ask for a motion to approve the M & J plans. Campbell made a motion to approve. Firth seconded the motion. All voted aye. Dumire then made a request for a motion to conditionally approve the one county (Sechrist) plan. Clark made a motion to approve. Campbell seconded the motion. All voted aye. Dunmire gave a motion request to approve the comments for the four municipal plans. Campbell made a motion to approve. Clark seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Project Updates

The commissioners approved hiring a Grants Program Administrator, Kristen Price. She started on October 30th and will be working to administer the Home Program and various other grants. Price will be managing a RAC-P grant for the MC library and courthouse. It is a 1.6-million-dollar project.

The consultant is developing a survey for the Comprehensive Plan. The survey will be completed early next week. It will include a series of 40+ questions. The survey will gather information regarding different components of the community and opinions on the quality of life in Mifflin County. This will help to prioritize projects involving the comprehensive plan. It will be accessible through a QR code or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mifflincounty>. There are also hard copies available at several locations in the county for those who do not have internet access.

Phase II for the Juniata River Trail is completed. The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 18th.

An important initiative in the Planning Department will be to promote internet access to the county. Lettiere will be heading up and working to get funding and availability for internet service to the community.

Other Business

Next MCPC meeting will be December 19th, 2024.

Adjournment

Dunmire announced the meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Minutes Approved

Signature

Date