



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

6880 DEXTER-PINCKNEY ROAD

DEXTER, MI 48130

TELEPHONE: 734-426-3767

FAX: 734-426-3833

WWW.DEXTERTOWNSHIP.ORG

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Present: Chairperson Mark Teicher; Vice-Chairperson Scott Joling; Township Board Representative Laura Sanders; Marty Ruhlig; Guerin Wilkinson (arrived 7:31 p.m.)

Absent/excused: Secretary Kathy Bradbury, Deb Mielke

Also present: FOSP Board Consultant, Barry Lonik; Pam Weber, Recording Secretary.

Audience present: Steve Gross, Bob Nester

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Teicher called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Motion Ruhlig; support Joling, to approve the agenda as presented for April.
Unanimous voice vote approval with Bradbury, Mielke and Wilkinson absent.

3. Approval of Past Minutes:

Motion Ruhlig; support Joling, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 7, 2024 as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Bradbury, Mielke and Wilkinson absent.

Motion Joling; support Ruhlig, to approve the Closed Session minutes of March 7, 2024 as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Bradbury, Mielke and Wilkinson absent.

4. Public Comment – 1st call: (non-agenda items): None

5. Consultant's Report:

- The landowner mailing is ready to be sent next week
- Greenbelt expansion: The Ann Arbor City Council formally approved the expansion of the Greenbelt. Properties outside the Greenbelt will be referred to as the Bluebelt. The

focus will be on water quality protection. It will be a good potential funding source for Dexter Township going forward.

- NATAC funds: There was no meeting this week. August 15th is the deadline for applications for this year's funds. Lonik hopes to have applications to submit.
- Protected land sign/Monier: Washtenaw County Parks is happy to provide the post and dig the hole for the sign.
- BOT project update: Lonik will provide Teicher with a project update report to present to the Board of Trustees.

6. Committee Member Q & A: None

Sanders reported that Board of Trustees approval is not needed for purchases less than \$500.

Sanders reported on the solar farm issue. She is part of a small group working on a community engagement effort to create an ordinance to be in place if the law is not cancelled. The law currently says Consumers Energy can come in and meet with a property owner to negotiate putting in a solar field, which means no more food can be grown. The current law does not allow a Township to stop that. Dexter Township would like to have the right to have input into that type of decision. With an ordinance in place, when the Township owns the development rights to a farm, Consumers cannot come in and take over without Township input.

Sanders will be absent for the May meeting.

7. Closed Session:

Motion Teicher; support Sanders to move the Board into closed session under section 8 of the Open Meetings Act, to consult with our consultant regarding the potential purchase of development rights of certain properties.

Ayes: Ruhlig, Sanders, Joling, Teicher, Wilkinson

Nays: None

Absent: Bradbury, Mielke

Motion Carries.

The Board Entered Closed Session at 7:33 p.m.

Motion Teicher; support Sanders to return to Open Public Meeting.
Unanimous voice vote approval with Bradbury and Mielke absent.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:51 p.m.

8. Public comment – 2nd call: None

9. Adjournment:

Motion Sanders; support Wilkinson to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

Documents regarding the agenda items can be obtained at the Township Hall during normal business hours or the Township's website: www.dextertownship.org.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Bradbury and Milke absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Joling, Secretary

Pam Weber, Recording Secretary

*Next meeting of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board is May 2, 2024.
Agenda due date is April 25, 2024*