



**MINUTES**  
**Newaygo City Planning Commission**  
**January 5, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Roll Call: Present: Chambers, Fedell, Williams, Wight  
Absent: DeVries, Faulkner, Francis  
Also Present: Jon Schneider: City Manager, Kim Goodin: Recording Secretary  
Amy Dalman: City Code Enforcement Officer

Motion by Williams, second by Wight to excuse absent members. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Wight to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams to approve 12/08/2022 meeting minutes. AIF/MC

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Motion by Fedell, second by Wight to reappoint Chambers as Planning Commission Chair, Fedell as Planning Commission Vice-Chair and Williams as Planning Commission Secretary. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams to approve Resolution P23-01 setting the regular meeting dates of the Planning Commission for the Year 2023. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Wight at 6:38 pm to open public hearing to discuss and take comments on special land use request by Mercury Broadband for outdoor storage of supplies and equipment for build out of broadband internet infrastructure. Parcel # 62-19-19-400-012 with an address in S. Industrial Dr. AIF/MC Robb Lamer from Exxel Engineering Inc. was present and stated that Mercury Broadband is a leading provider of high speed internet and digital phone service and this will be their first location in Michigan. Lamer discussed site plans stating that the building will be approximately 15,000 sq. ft., outdoor storage area will be secured with a chain link fence, and discussed areas around the building that will be paved. He said that they anticipate employing 50-60 people as they continue to grow. Lamer said that 3-5 people will be at the building in the office and warehouse during business hours and the remaining employees will be in the field. He said that they anticipate periodic deliveries of material and supplies, by semi-trucks, to the office and warehouse. Lamer said that Mercury Broadband is committed to building a positive impact in Newaygo. Lamer answered questions from Board Members relating to: field staff, distance the building is from the road (approximately 80 ft.), and if the retention ponds are mowable (yes they are mowable). Motion by Williams, second by Wight at 6:46 pm to close the public hearing. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Wight to recommend to City Council the approval for a special land use request by Mercury Broadband to allow for an outdoor storage area of supplies and equipment for build out of broadband internet infrastructure contingent that final design of water and sewer connections are approved by the City's Department of Public Works. AIF/MC

Schneider and Dalman discussed request from house at 413 S. Division St. that would like to utilize a separate building on their property for a Bed and Breakfast. Schneider said that currently the parcel at 413 S. Division St is zoned R-1 which does not allow for this situation. He showed the Zoning Map of the parcels around her house and many of them are zoned B-1 (Community Business District), which would allow for a Bed and Breakfast. Schneider said that one possible way to allow a Bed and Breakfast at this location would be to rezone the parcel at 413 S. Division St. to B-1. Schneider looking for thoughts and comments from the Planning Commission and City Council before the City proceeds through the rezoning process, which would eventually require approval

from the Planning Commission and City Council. Consensus of Planning Commission Board was that they did not see a problem with rezoning this parcel to B-1. Schneider gave updates on: potential town square project, Disc Golf Course, street lights, Social Zone District and the TIFA Façade Program. He said that Christian Healthcare Centers met their goal in 2022 and have approximately 500 members. Schneider said that the PSD Board had formed a committee to research public restrooms in the downtown area.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Motion by Williams, second by Wight to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm. AIF/MC

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Secretary-Sandy Williams