

VILLAGE OF CALUMET PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES

Calumet Village Town Hall • 340 6th Street • Calumet, MI 49913

Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 5:30 pm

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic,
this was an online GoToMeeting Event.

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Colleen Kobe at 10:00 AM.

Verbal Roll Call was taken.

Present: Commissioners Andrew Ranville, Virginia Dwyer, Colleen Kobe

Absent: None

Vacant: Two

Also present: Manager Caleb Katz and three members of the public present for varying lengths of time.

II. Acceptance of this meeting's agenda

Moved by Commissioner Ranville and seconded by Commissioner Dwyer to accept the agenda with the modifications suggested.

Roll Call Vote to approve this meeting's agenda:

Ayes: Chair Kobe, Commissioners Ranville and Dwyer

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously (3/0).

III. Agenda

A. Planning Commission Members: Election of Officers: Chair and Secretary

The Planning Commission is currently composed of the following members:

Colleen Kobe	Calumet Township resident
Andrew Ranville: Welcome!	Village Council member
Virginia Dwyer: Welcome!	Village of Calumet resident

The Planning Commission needed to elect new officers.

Commissioner Ranville nominated Commissioner Dwyer as secretary. Commissioner Dwyer declined to second the motion, so the motion failed because it did not have a second (current chair Kobe cannot make or second motions).

This led into a lengthy discussion about attracting additional members to the Planning Commission, both past members and new members. Commissioner Dwyer reported the events of the December 13, 2020, Village Council meeting, in which past Planning Commissioner Chris Green's term was not renewed in that meeting. Also, Planning Commission applicant Peggy Germain was treated with an unfair lack of respect by one of the members of the Village Council during questioning by the Village Council about her qualifications as a candidate. Applicant Germain then withdrew her application.

Commissioner Dwyer and Ranville both encouraged Chair Kobe to watch the GoToMeeting video of that meeting. Both stated that the Planning Commission has room for, and definitely needs, more members.

See paragraph G on page 3 for a list of the action items resulting from this part of the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Ranville and seconded by Commissioner Dwyer to nominate Colleen Kobe as Planning Commission chair.

Roll Call Vote to elect Colleen Kobe as Planning Commission chair:

Ayes: Chair Kobe, Commissioners Ranville and Dwyer
Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously (3/0).

B. Emails, Letters, and Petitions from the Public

Peggy Germain was here and spoke to the Planning Commission.

Pete Hahn stepped up to say he would like to join the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission asked him questions about his qualifications and he answered them readily. Mr. Hahn had not yet submitted an application but he said he would complete it and submit it the next day. The PC did not vote whether to recommend him to the VC at this time, because of the missing application.

C. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

1. August 20, 2020
2. August 24, 2020
3. September 9, 2020

Moved by Commissioner Ranville and seconded by Commissioner Dwyer to accept the agenda.

Roll Call Vote to approve all meeting minutes:

Ayes: Chair Kobe, Commissioners Ranville and Dwyer

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously (3/0).

For the record: Commissioners Ranville and Dwyer wish to note that they were uncomfortable verifying the contents of the minutes, because neither had attended the meeting as members of the Planning Commission.

There were no Planning Commission meetings in October, November, or December, 2020.

D. Updating the Zoning Ordinance with Beckett and Raeder

No progress.

E. Status of Unicode recodifying our existing ordinances

No progress.

F. New Business

Due to the meeting lasting longer than desired, the PC glossed over the Michigan Municipal League documents. Chair Kobe instructed the others to read the documents on their own time.

At chair Kobe's request, Commissioner Ranville read the Village of Calumet Ordinance 94 aloud. Several discrepancies were noted regarding the quantity of members allowed in the PC. See paragraph G on page 3 for a list of the action items resulting from this part of the meeting.

G. Summarize Action Items from this Meeting

- ✓ Chair Kobe would view the Village Council meeting of December 13, 2020.
- ✓ Chair Kobe would write emails to Chris Green and Peggy Germain, asking them to please consider applying to be part of the Planning Commission again. These emails would be cc'ed to the Village Council and Planning Commission members.
- ✓ Chair Kobe would email the Village Council asking them to reconsider assigning Chris Green and Peggy Germain to the Planning Commission.
- ✓ Chair Kobe would attend the January 19, 2021, Village Council meeting, and ask the Village Council to assign Chris Green and Peggy Germain on the Planning Commission.
- ✓ Chair Kobe would write up meeting minutes for this meeting only. The hope is that the Village Council would assign new members of the Planning Commission, and that one of them would serve as Secretary.
- ✓ Chair Kobe would investigate the latest-and-greatest version of Ordinance 94.

- ✓ Village Manager Katz will contact the HDC to find out if Commissioner Dwyer could borrow their laptop from time to time for PC business.
- ✓ Village Manager Katz will print the new Zoning ordinance for Commissioner Dwyer.
- ✓ Commissioner Dwyer asked Village Manager Katz to please contact American Legal Publishing for an extension on the ordinance recodification.

H. Next Planning Commission Meeting

No next meeting was scheduled. If new members are appointed at the January 19 VC meeting, they may have their own schedule limitations. Future meetings can be scheduled by a series of e-mails.

Colleen Kobe, Planning Commission Chair

January 17, 2021