

**VILLAGE OF SPRING LAKE
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
March 24, 2015 7:00 PM**

**Barber School Community Building
102 West Exchange Street
Spring Lake, MI 49456
49456**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman **Miller** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Bohnhoff, Boon, C. Miller, Van Leeuwen-Vega, VanStrate, and Yasenak

Staff Present: Jennifer Howland (Village Planner), Christine Burns (Village Manager), Brian Sipe (Fire Chief)

Absent: Kauchek

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by **VanStrate**, seconded by **Bohnhoff**, to approve the agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 24, 2015 regular meeting

Motion by **Bohnhoff**, seconded by **Van Leeuwen-Vega**, to approve the Minutes of the February 24, 2015 regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

5. PRESENTATION – Spring Lake Township Fire Station Concept

Jennifer **Howland** introduced this item and asked **Fire Chief Brian Sipe** to proceed with the presentation about changes made to the proposed Township Fire Station. David Ross of CR Architecture and Design led the group through all of the changes made to the site plan and building elevations.

Van Strate was very supportive of the changes and noted that it reminds him of Mill Point Station.

Boon expressed concern about the proposed wall adjacent to the parking spaces in front of the station hindering snow removal. He also questioned whether the offset to the sidewalk across the 104 access driveway was appropriate. He liked the location of the dumpster along the east property line.

Van Leeuwen-Vega liked the smaller scale of the design, as well as the lack of an artificial buffer in the northern area. She asked about the type of brick, and **Chief Sipe** stated it would be similar to Village Hall. **Van Leeuwen-Vega** wondered if the parking provided was more than necessary for operations. **Chief Sipe** explained how the township did a parking needs analysis and that the proposed parking was appropriate for their needs.

Bohnhoff questioned the need for the parking in front of the bays. **Chief Sipe** stated they are needed for operations; this area is where the volunteer fire fighters will park.

Yasenak asked why the sheriff's department is proposing to be located here. **Manager Burns** stated that our contract with them requires that we provide space for their staff. **Yasenak** felt that the sidewalk on Savidge won't be used and suggested that the greenspace north of the bays be shifted to the north side of the driveway to add more buffering to the residential user to the north. He also noted that the proposed tree at the end of the island at the Fruitport Road access point may be in the way of vehicles.

Chairwoman **Miller** read a letter that **Kaucheck** sent to her. The concerns he stated were covered during the meeting. **Miller** suggested that the Township work with the Dyes to determine the fencing along the common property line. She asked about whether Fishbeck or CR would be the design professional on the project. **Chief Sipe** explained that CR is an expert in fire station design but that Fishbeck is the local firm that will be handling the construction phase of the project. **Miller** also asked if there was a plan to add a fourth bay. **Chief Sipe** stated that the design as shown with three bays is expected to support the growth of the fire station. **Miller** liked the previous suggestion that more greenspace be shifted to the Dye property line. She asked to see the floor plan and exterior colors. **Howland** explained that any floor plan will be for informational purposes only and won't be tied to the approval.

Yasenak questioned the size of the sheriff's office and **Bohnhoff** asked why the sheriff's office is relocating. **Burns** offered to give tours of the Village Hall and Township Hall to show the Planning Commissioners the spaces. There is not enough space for all of the sheriff's needs once the Township administration moves into Village Hall. Further, the co-location of the Fire Department and Sheriff's Department is logical from a service perspective.

At this time, Chairwoman **Miller** allowed the public to make comments although it was not a public hearing.

David Dye (114 N Fruitport Rd, Spring Lake, MI) asked about the grading of the northern property, to which staff explained that only the detention pond area would be graded. He liked the buffer increase, as well.

Rita Braun (121 S Fruitport Rd, Spring Lake, MI) believes that the sidewalk configuration on Savidge was important for safety. She asked that as many trees as possible be preserved and that new trees have a large caliper.

Calvin Braun (121 S Fruitport Rd, Spring Lake, MI) prefers that an underground detention basin be utilized, suggested that a metal roof be considered, and advocated for keeping the Savidge Street access driveway.

6. STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no statements of citizens.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.