

Master Plan Meeting
Monday September 18, 2023
6:30-7:30pm

In attendance: Shirley Kay, Scott Owen, Lisa Galdikas, Ann Hatfield, Tim Kotas, Joe Godlew, Dick Palmby, and Casey Letts

Reviewed revised Master Plan document which includes updated 2020 census information.

Key statistic noted was the decline in High School graduation rates. Discussion was had around key stakeholders (school superintendent) being involved in the discussion on how the township can positively impact this trend. There was also a slight decrease in total population counted, and the median age increased by 7 years.

Economic Development

- Lee Township and Bloomingdale Communication work on securing broadband funding for township project.
- The lakes in the areas serve as a boost to the local economy, especially with the influx of summer residents who shop and eat locally.
- It was noted that about 2 million dollars is spent each year on improvements within the Township.
- Township owned properties that are contiguous with properties owned by others should be considered to be put up for sale, to put those properties back on the tax role and increase the value of contiguous properties.

Public Safety

- Safe and affordable housing remains a concern for the community (as it does across the country). Substandard rental units continue to be of high concern. This is a very complicated legal issue which will require resources far beyond what the township has available. County resources for this should be pursued.
- Full time Fire Chief and Fire/EMS collaboration with cross training. Discussion with Life EMS to have ambulance stage at Lee Twp Fire Department for a portion of their shift.
- New banners (that hang on electrical poles throughout downtown) with the “working together” vision statement have been purchased and a few hung up.

Natural Features and the Environment

- Continue to support LSL Board and LSLIA work on water quality and lake needs. Again acknowledging the economic contribution the lakes bring in as well as noting the draw they have to the area.
- A local place for kids to swim was also brought up. Discussion over location, logistics, liability and a change in culture of that type of entertainment that was previously enjoyed by locals was discussed.

Improve Roads & Infrastructure

- Importance of continuing to support road millage.

The last section of the Master Plan includes a 5-year review of Objectives and Strategies along with documenting Township accomplishments under each category. Those in attendance provided input/edits to the document. Revised document will be shared at the next Township meeting.