AGENDA BEDFORD TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING JUNE 25, 2014 7:00 P.M.

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. ROLL CALL
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 30, 2014
- 6. PUBLIC COMMENT (limit 3 minutes)
- 7. NEW BUSINESS
 - A) OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE REDWOOD ACQUISITION LLC / WHITMAN FORD COMPANY REQUEST TO REZONE TO RM-2, MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, A LAND AREA COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY 17.262 ACRES, THE MAJORITY OF WHICH HAS AN UNDERLYING ZONING CLASSIFICAITON OF R-2A, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, AND A SMALL PORTION OF WHICH LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE LAND AREA IS ZONED C-3, GENERAL COMMERCIAL; NOT WITHSTANDING THE UNDERLYING R-2A ZONING CLASSIFICATION, SEGMENTS OF THE LAND AREA HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE FOLLOWING ENUMERATED USES BY JUDGMENT OF THE MONROE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT IN CASE NUMBER 09-27523-CH, (1) PBO, PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE, (2) RM-2, MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, (3) RME, ELDERLY HOUSING RESIDENTIAL, AND (4) C-2, SHOPPING CENTER BUSINESS, ON A PORTION OF PARCEL NUMBER 5802-027-059-40, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS A VACANT PIECE OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LEWIS AVENUE AND STERNS ROAD

Discussion and recommendation regarding Item 7A

- 8. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 9. INFORMATION
- 10. COMMISSION / STAFF COMMENT

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11. ADJOURNMENT - 10:00 P.M.

The Township of Bedford will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at meetings upon one-week notice to the Township of Bedford. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township of Bedford by writing or calling the following:

- .

Greg W. Stewart, Township Supervisor 8100 Jackman Road, P.O. Box H Temperance, MI 48182 Telephone (734) 847-6791

(SEE REVERSE FOR PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURES)

BEDFORD TO \ ISHIP PLANNING CC MISSION APPLICATION FOR ZONING CHANGE OR AMENDMENT

SUL					
1.0.25	1458-02-027-059-40	approximately 17			
MAY 29 C	N458-02-027-059-40 Parcel Number	Number of Acres			
NU.	WINSHIP	Township of Bedfo	ord, MI 49020		
REDFORDING	NA58-02-027-059-40 Parcel Number NASHIP DERdtress Whitman Ford Company	City / State / Zip			
PLANIA.	Whitman Ford Company	734-735-4645	n/a		
	Property Owner(s)	Phone	Fax		
	724 St. Anne Lane	Monroe, Michigan	48162		
	Address	City / State / Zip	2		
	jon.whitman66@gmail.com				
	E-mail Address (used for meeting notificat	tion purposes when a fax option is	not available)		
3.	Zoning Change Requested By: (if different than owner):				
	Redwood Acquisition LLC	216-254-8425	n/a		
	Name	Phone	Fax		
	23775 Commerce Park, Suite 7	Beachwood, Ohio 44122			
	Address	City / State / Zip			
4.	Current Zoning: PBO, RM-2, RME, C-2 U	Jse Requested Zoning: <u>RM-2</u>			
	single-story, attached-garage apartment community				
	Proposed Use of Property (Attach Plot Plan				
5.	I (We),		, property owner(s)		
	hereby grant permission for members of t	he Bedford Township Planning (
	Department staff, and consultants to enter the above-described property for the purpose of gathering				
	information related to this application. (Note to applicant: Failure to grant permission to enter this				
	property will not affect any decision regarding your application.)				
	see attached letter				
		yped/Printed Name	Date		
	Signature T	yped/Printed Name	Date		

6. PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING THIS APPLICATION

The applicant may be requested to provide additional information by the Planning Commission or Township Board. You may include any information that you believe will be of assistance in reaching a decision, however, any decision by the Township will be based on the appropriateness of the proposed zoning change in relation to the Township Master Plan as well as surrounding land zoning and uses. In the event your escrow account for this project is found to be insufficient, your signature below indicates that you agree to remit additional funds to rectify the account. Your signature below also indicates that you have read and understand the accompanying literature "Planning & Zoning Procedures: The Rezoning Process" and the fee schedule.

Signature	Typed/Printed		1.	2.5/14 Date
Signature	Typed/Printed	l Naine]	Date
Application Accepted By:				
	Planning Department Rep	Date	Copy Given	App. or Rep.
Applications, Recoming Revised 9/3/97 7/4/05/6/11/08			To Applicant	Initials

May __, 2014

Bedford Township Government Center 8100 Jackman Rd, PO Box H Temperance, MI 48182 Dear Sir or Madam:

I, Jon Whitman, President of Whitman Ford Company, a Michigan corporation, property owner(s), hereby grant permission for members of the Bedford Township Planning Commission, Planning Department staff, and consultants to enter the above-described property for the purpose of gathering information related to the following applications by Redwood Acquisition LLC for approximately 17 acres of land situated south of Sterns Road and east of Lewis Avenue in Bedford Township, Michigan:

- Application for Zoning Change or Amendment
- Application for Site Plan Review

(Note to applicant: Failure to grant permission to enter this property will not affect any decision regarding your application.)

I also consent to and concur in the submittal of the above-described applications.

Whitman Ford Company, a Michigan corporation

By: Jon Whitman, Its President

Date:

Bedford Township Planning Commission – Site Analysis

Date:	June 16, 2014
Applicant:	Redwood Acquisition LLC
Owner:	Whitman Ford
Current Zoning:	PBO, RM-2, RME and R2-A with C-2
	Uses. ⁱ , and C-3.
Requested Zoning Change:	RM-2 Multiple Family
Proposed Use:	Apartment Development
Parcel Number and Location:	58-02-027-059-40

Site Characteristies, Zoning, and Land Use Patterns

The subject parcel is currently vacant and farmed as shown on the attached aerial photograph. The total parcel area is 43.31 acres in size and the portion of the property subject to this request is 17.262 acres in size leaving 26.048 acres for further development. The properties adjacent to the site are zoned and used as follows:

North

Zoned - R2-A Single Family. Use – Monroe County Community College campus. *West* Zoned – R2-A Single Family Use – Single Family Residential Subdivision *South* Zoned – R2-B Single Family Use – Single Family Homes *East* Zoned – R2-A Single Family Residential with C-2 Uses and C-3. Use – Vacant

Utilities

The property has access to all public and private utilities.

Master Plan

The current master plan identifies this property as being future planned for Mixed Residential/Office/Commercial uses and is further described as follows:

Mixed Residential/Office/Commercial

Mixed Residential/Office/Commercial is intended to provide for a mixture of residential, office, and lower intensity commercial uses outside designated Village Centers. Locational criteria for this designation would be to locate mixed use developments at nodes of major intersections such as that at Lewis and Smith Road. This designation allows for any combination of residential, office or local commercial use. Upper floor residential above retail or office would be encouraged. (Note: Currently there is no

zoning district other than Planned Unit Development that would permit a mixed use development.)

This land use designation is also designed to maintain and promote the flexible redevelopment of certain areas of the Township. The emphasis of this designation is a combination of residential, office, and local commercial uses.

The Master Plan further states the following regarding Multiple Family Development:

Multiple-Family Residential

The Multiple-Family Residential classification is intended to provide opportunities for affordable housing and alternatives to traditional subdivision development. Multiplefamily developments may serve as a transitional land use; one which buffers single family units from more intensive land uses or the impacts associated with major transportation corridors. Multiple-family developments must be served adequately by essential public facilities and services such as water and sewer, storm drainage, and refuse disposal. Due to the higher density and trip generation potential of multiple-family developments, these uses should be sited so that ingress and egress is provided directly from a major thoroughfare or collector street.

Permitted uses within this district are garden apartments, townhouses, multiple family upscale condominium developments and convalescent or nursing homes. This type of development is encouraged to locate in areas well served by the existing transportation network and where the amenities of urban living may be best provided. However, the undue concentration of any one type of housing in a single area is to be discouraged.

The recommended residential density is 10 units per acre, depending on the dwelling unit type. It is important that multiple family developments are well-designed and include design characteristics such as: adequate distance between structures within the development, appropriate height limitations, served with open space, utilities, access only to paved streets, safe and efficient egress and ingress designed to minimize congestion and interference with normal traffic flow, adequate drainage, and a minimum greenbelt of 20 feet when a multiple-family development adjoins any single-family residential district or any developed nonresidential district.

Permitted Uses in the Requested District 400.600 Intent.

Sec. 600. The RM-2 Multiple-Family Residential Districts are designed to provide sites for multiple-family dwelling structures, and related uses, which will generally serve as zones of transition between the nonresidential districts and lower-density single-family districts. The RM-1 Multiple-Family Districts are designed to serve the needs for the apartment type of unit on larger sites where multiple-family densities can be accommodated.

400.601 Principal uses permitted.

Sec. 601. In a Multiple-Family Residential District, no building or land shall be used and no building shall be erected except for one or more of the following specified uses unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance:

All uses permitted and as regulated in the RT Two-Family Residential District.
Multiple-family dwellings.

3. Accessory buildings and uses customarily incident to any of the above permitted uses.

Based on the above information, and considering the property as a whole, this request **does** meet the intent of the current Bedford Township Master Plan.

Analysis written by Dennis Jenkins

ⁱ C-2 Shopping Center Commercial Uses per Monroe County Circuit Court in Case No. 09-27523-CH.

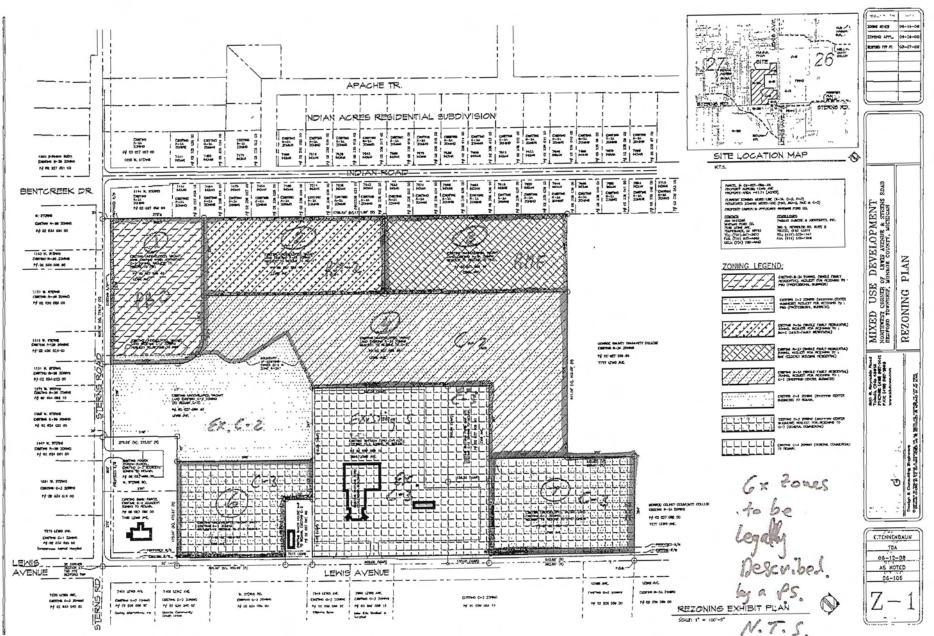
Regarding "equal protection" the Defendant correctly contends that the principle to be applied is that, "similar circumstances be treated similarly". *Dowerk, supra at 73*. The Plaintiff has the burden of proving the Defendant's actions were "arbitrary". *Crego, supra at 259-260*. Proximity of competing land uses is a very important issue for a township to consider. *Belle River, supra* at 132. For the same foregoing reasons that the denial of the reclassification of Lot 6 was improper, and that the referendum action cannot stand, this Court is compelled to find the governmental action to be arbitrary and capricious.

V. Conclusion.

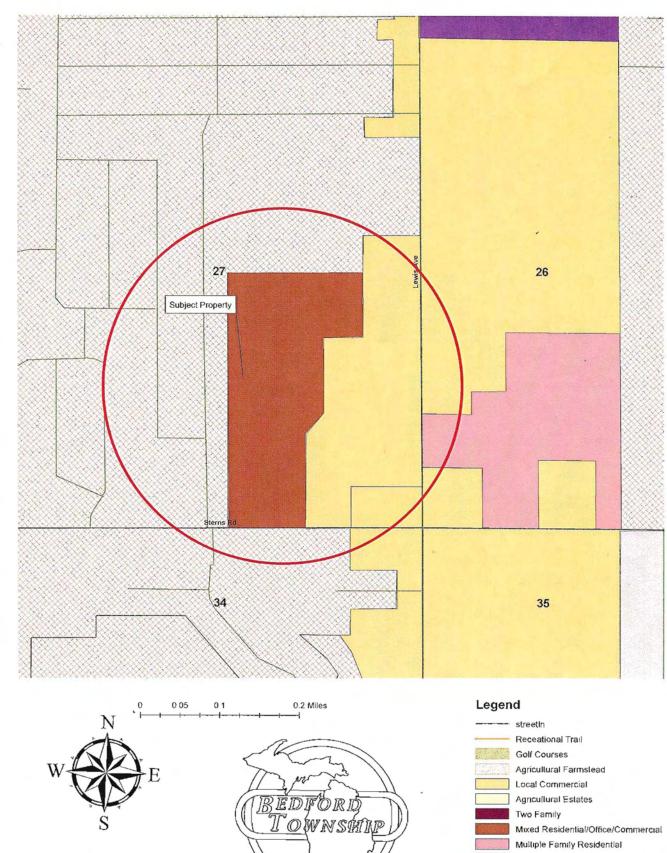
Regardless on which side of the issue a resident of Bedford Township is on this case, the Bedford Watch group is a great example of our democratic society at work. The group attempted to have the ordinance amended and pursued further relief by way of a referendum. The Township Board denied the proposed amendment to the ordinance, but the referendum was initially successful. Despite claims of a misleading and biased campaign, opponents were free to counter it, but no one did. The Township officials properly stayed out of the fray. The Township attempted to do the right thing by seeking its own application to rezone Lot 6 to a PBO. The fact is the application was withdrawn in light of the referendum and in anticipation of the Plaintiff's lawsuit. In this Court's opinion it is left with the prospect of enforcing the referendum, which it cannot legally do as stated in the instant decision and in the decision denying the Defendant's Motion for Involuntary Dismissal on January 12, 2011. The R-2A parcel does not comply with the Master Plan and the Township recognized this in its own application to rezone it to PBO but subsequently withdrew the application. What now remains is the Plaintiff's original application as modified²⁹ and the action taken by the Township and referendum.

The Plaintiff's request was found to be reasonable and in compliance with the Master Plan by virtually all planning commissions and the expert witnesses presented at trial with the exception of Lot 6 as opined by Mr. LeBlanc. The BTPC and the Township Board found that the Plaintiff's proposal for Lot 6 should not be granted. The Township dropped its application for a PBO classification for Lot 6, leaving the parcel classified as

²⁹ The Plaintiff agreed to drop his request for a C-3 reclassification on Sterns Road.



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Manufacture Home Communities

Office/Commercial Park/Industrial

Village Center/Mixed Use

Single Family Residential Office

Mixed Residential Open Space Parkland

Public Community Activity Center

Light Industrial

Section_Numbers



