

**RESOLUTION HOLDING PUBLIC HEARING ON ALL IN! ASHTABULA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners on September 16, 2020 entered into a contract with PlanningNext to provide professional services necessary to facilitate and produce a complete update of the Ashtabula County Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, the plan has been completed, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 20, 2021 by the Planning Commission on the Comprehensive Plan update and the Planning Commission voted by Resolution No. 2021-014 to recommend acceptance of the plan by the Board of County Commissioners, and

WHEREAS, Jake Brand, Director of the Ashtabula County Community Services and Planning Department offered the following comments:

Director Brand briefly summarized how the All In! Comp Plan came to be. In late in 2020 they started to undertake the revamping of the comp plan, year long process, 120 actions created. The goal is to essentially provide a visionary document. A Stakeholder and consulting firm to help facilitate the process. The website [www.allinashtabulacounty.com](http://www.allinashtabulacounty.com) outlines the plan. He discussed the goals that were created based off of public input and engagement. On December 20, 2021 the Planning Commission made a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

WHEREAS, Persons from the public in attendance included: Shara Parkomaki, Robin Parsons, Barbara Gubanyar, Tom Westlake, Penny Neubauer, Brian Haytcher, Kenny Kister. Comments from the public were offered as follows:

Robin Parsons spoke regarding the process, her perceptions that the process lacked efficient public notice, occurring during Covid, a lack of community engagement, what would you view as a lot of community engagement. Ms. Parsons stated her concerns with the publicity of the plan. She wasn't aware of it until something was held at the community center. She was expecting a slide presentation, but the presentation included a person speaking with 20 boards on the walls of all kinds of information. She didn't feel this was an effective way, why wasn't the slide presentation used. One of the pages in the plan stated they didn't get good input and response from South County and there wasn't township zoning representation on the steering committee. She asked: How will you move forward with this and communicate with the public? Director Brand explained the public notification process and how the first 3 meetings were virtual, an online engagement, there were in-person meetings, and attended the Ashtabula County Fair the whole week. The 2<sup>nd</sup> stage was in the newspaper multiple times. The township's were contacted via email. Commissioner Ducro asked if Ms. Parsons went online to any of the feedback sites. Ms. Parsons participated in the Gazette and she printed out some things herself. She doesn't feel Zoom meetings are effective. Why did it start in the middle of the pandemic? Commissioner Kozlowski responded that it was based on a schedule for a specific time frame, which was 2020 to 2021. If you think there is a better way to get the word out, please let us know. Different communication tools were used, such as: Radio Wreo, Conneaut cable station, Facebook, articles in the newspapers to type in their responses to target areas to concentrate on, county libraries, school districts, twp. trustees, mailers at different county agencies.

Ken Kister Sheffield Twp. Trustee asked if we were voting on it today?

Commissioner Kozlowski stated no. This does not supersede local zoning, it is a guide and framework

Ken Kister spoke regarding the issue of devaluing or taking away from property owners, in a previous version it stated you couldn't build within 500 ft. from a tributary. In taking away, you are devaluing the most valuable pieces of property.

Penny Neubauer commented that in doing so much virtually, it is not surprising you didn't get a lot of feedback from south county, as there is no broadband there. It is virtually impossible to participate.

Commissioner Kozlowski and thanked the public, encouraged people to reach out if they have further comments. The plan was last updated in 2003, serves as framework, aspects that will be worked on. Subdivision Regulations will be enacted soon. This is not set in stone, good guide and framework If there are parts of the plan you feel contrary to, the board would like to hear them, before we adopt the plan.

Commissioner Whittington thanked everyone for coming and the importance to have community involvement and feedback.

Commissioner Ducro advisory/framework one of the major values as this document identifies things that are determined to be moved forward, it is a critical document to help with grant applications and other projects, show recommended by or a part of the comp plan, helps score better, what types of grants to go after, moving forward with the development of the county; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, that the public hearing has been held on the All In! Ashtabula County Comprehensive Plan and the hearing is hereby adjourned. The Board will discuss the plan further at a future meeting of the board.

**ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CERTIFICATION PAGE**

**Resolution No. 2022-166**

**March 15, 2022**

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**Upon the motion of Kathryn L. Whittington, seconded by Casey R. Kozlowski.**

**VOTE:**

**J.P. Ducro IV**

**Casey R. Kozlowski**

**Kathryn L. Whittington**

**Aye**

**Aye**

**Aye**

**CERTIFICATE OF CLERK**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon and duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, on the date noted above.



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Lisa Hawkins, Clerk of the Board  
Board of County Commissioners  
Ashtabula County, Ohio