



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

30239 128th Street, Princeton MN 55371

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

March 18, 2015

Call to Order:

The March 18, 2015 Baldwin Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Judy Thorson at 7:30 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioners Ross Perry, Peggy Patten, Rich Harris, Judy Thorson, Bryan Lawrence and Richard Marshall. Planner Bridget Chard was in attendance as well as Town Board Supervisor Liaison Randy Atwood. Deputy Clerk Cheryl Goetz Dobson took the minutes. The audience sign-in sheet is attached.

Claim Forms:

The Claim Forms were passed out and returned to the Deputy Clerk.

Move to Approve/Disapprove Agenda:

- Remove and add to April agenda 'Findings / CUP / Variances, etc.'
- Add to Communications 'Planner Chard'

Commissioners Marshall/Perry unanimous to approve agenda as amended.

Secretary's Report:

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of 18.February.15 / Move to Approve / Disapprove:

It was pointed out a motion was not completed. The deputy clerk is to verify the incompleteness by reviewing the notes. *Commissioners Lawrence/Perry unanimous to table the approval of the February 18, 2015 Planning Commission meeting minutes in order to verify the incomplete motion.*

Handout Signed Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from 21.January.15 to Planning Commissioners:

The signed and approved minutes of January 21, 2015 was distributed in order to be added to the commission books.

Public Input:

Addressing Resolution 15-04, Charles Nagle pointed out that it states he is not to give comment except at a ...*public hearing, and subject to the discretion of the presiding officer at such public hearing who shall retain the ability to limit comments....* It was stressed again that the Planning Commission is an advisory board to the township supervisors, therefore comments are usually

moot. Chairman Thorson said she will stay with the rules as directed by the town board, and from here on any comments made will be isolated and infrequent.

Communication: Liaison:

Solar Farms:

Liaison Atwood reported that the town board sent comments to the county asking the county to define in specific language that which differentiates between a resident that wants to install a multi-panel system versus a “solar farm” who is looking to install acres of solar panels. There is still time to submit comments to the county as Lawrence indicated that solar farms was not yet on the county agenda.

Planning Commission Role / Township:

Already discussed. See above.

Communications – Planner Chard:

Chard stated that there still is a lot to learn involving quite a bit of homework on the part of the commissioners. She said at the next meeting we will look at tightening up the plan, and proceed to tailor it with what the town board is expecting from this group.

Old Business

Vision Statement:

It was decided to come up with a two to three line mission statement for Baldwin keeping it simple but encompassing pertinent points since a mission statement does carry weight. A mission statement is a generalized idea identifying the key ideas that the Township wants the world to see when they hear their name. Each commissioner is asked to forward their mission statement idea to the deputy clerk before the next meeting. The deputy clerk will then collate them and sent them back to the commissioners for review at least one week prior to the meeting for any potential revision.

Continue Discussions on Community Meetings / Team Responses / Notice and Setup for May:

Commissioners Thorson and Marshall will be conducting the May community meeting centered on the zoned based businesses aspect of the comprehensive plan. Thorson prepared possible questions to ask the businesses. Commissioner Marshall will lead the community meeting. The Baldwin Volunteer Corps will assist in whatever is needed. There was discussion on how to get notice out in the community to garner interest in attending. The community meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 18 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with doors opening at 5:30 Chard will create a flyer to be handed out at Clean Up Day on May 16. *Commissioners Perry/Patten motion to clarify that notification will only be given to the brick and mortar businesses, not the home businesses, although the community meeting will be open to all businesses who wish to attend. With a voice vote taken Commissioners Perry, Patten and Marshall voted yea; Commissioners Lawrence and Harris voted no. Motion carries.*

Commissioner Perry agreed to contact the businesses.

Due to the lateness of the hour, motion by Commissioners Lawrence/Harris to table remaining sections to the April Planning Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Sherburne County Land Use Ordinance – Research on Solar Farm Language:

Findings / CUP / Variances:

Add to April agenda.

Public Input:

None.

New Business:

Comp Plan Goals and Objectives / Choose and Begin Work-up:

Next Month:

- Community Meetings; Actual Setup; Notifications
- County Planning Commission Meeting; Attend? Arrange
- Comp Plan Work; Goals and Objectives

Commissioner's Corner:

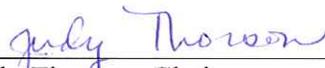
- Commissioner Marshall stressed that we are a team. Even though there may be some differences in opinion, the commission should stand united. Planner Chard indicated that the Planning Commission has reviewed the Rigger's Rules of Order and that they have a written code of conduct in their books. She asked that the two new Commissioners possibly come early (1 hour before) the next Planning Commission meeting in order to begin working with them to get them up to speed.

Adjourn:

Commissioners Harris/Lawrence unanimous to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. with the next Planning Commission meeting to be held on April 15, 2015.



Respectfully submitted:
Cheryl Goetz Dobson
Deputy Clerk



Judy Thorson, Chairman

4-15-2015

Date

Amendments: