



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

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PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

DRAFT COMMUNITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN / PROPOSED LAND USE MAP

Date: July 9, 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Baldwin Town Hall

1. Call to Order:

The July 9, 2014 Baldwin Planning Commission Public Hearing on the Draft Community Comprehensive Plan/Proposed Land Use Map was called to order by Chairperson Judy Thorson at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Commissioners Present:

Commissioners Terry Carlile, Peggy Patten, Judy Thorson, Rich Harris and Ross Perry were present. Planner Bridget Chard was in attendance as well as Town Board Supervisor Liaison Randy Atwood. Clerk/Treasurer Cathy Stevens took the minute. The audience sign-in sheet is attached.

3. Purpose of Public Hearing:

To take comments on the Draft Community Comprehensive Plan and Proposed Draft Land Use Map.

a. Clerk/Treasurer: Read and entered into the record:

- Public Hearing Notice
- Provided proof of Affidavit of Publication
- Provided proof of Affidavit of Postings
- Written or oral comments

1. Oral Comments by: **Chairperson Judy Thorson** read her comments:

“Demographics: p 1. HW 95 is NEAR Baldwin, not actually through it. North through Princeton, actually. I wonder if that reference needs to be more general.
Community Services: p.1. I think you already heard this one, but the Business Luncheon is referred to as occurring in May annually. This occurred a few years, but was not held this year. I wonder if this should be more general, as well. This is true for the Fun Fest as well. It may or may not be held in August. Annual is still accurate.

In the Parks section all the parks are mentioned. Do they need to be listed in this section as well?



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p.3. The airport may or may not get a second runway. This could change.

p.5. Last paragraph, I think a phrase may be missing, explaining the small minority.

Land Uses: p3. Is the "Estimate": in acres or numbers of people? I am not clear on what the estimate is regarding. Maybe it is clear to others. Just asking.

Environment: p2 The word "many" is misspelled.

p.5. Should #4 under Goal 1, be under Goal 2?

Parks: p.2. I think the old school house is gone. I will check w/Sue Hix.

p.6. Perhaps reference to the Fun Fest should give the time line only as the first annual as being in 2011. I will have to verify that year. Perhaps Cheryl Goetz, (Deputy), knows. I know Elaine Phillippe (landowner) can give me that."

2. **Written Comments: Resident Elaine Philippi** delivered written comments from Chuck Nagle, 131st Street:

- "A good comprehensive inventory but not a plan much less a comprehensive plan. There is no vision for the future of Baldwin therefore there can be no plan to achieve.
- There are a great number of very significant goals that will require very significant resources. We need to remember that Baldwin is township with a very small staff.
- There is a Governmental Relations section. It states that long-term land use management will help identify what the future of Baldwin Township and the surrounding area will look like. Will comments be solicited from all surrounding jurisdictions prior to adoption?
- To the end of meaningful commentary Baldwin taxpayers were only allowed to read the draft document inside the town hall during regular business hours. Copies were not available for purchase and study.
- The Minnesota Association of Townships handbook by attorney Troy Gilchrist discusses township zoning. Troy is currently one of the Baldwin attorneys. Please see the attached excerpt.
- This will be difficult if there is no specific details of what Baldwin residents would like to be different than the current Sherburne County comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances.

Chuck Nagle

Address

Phone Number

- Attachment: "Township Planning & Zoning – A General Overview"
Prepared by: MAT Legal Staff. Edited by: Ken Sulem, Attorney.
Document Number: PZ1000. Revised: November 12, 2001. Minnesota Association of Townships Information Library."



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4. **Presentation of Community Comprehensive Plan / Proposed Draft Land Use Map and other Mapping:**

Planner Bridget Chard reviewed the maps that were located in the town hall along with the information and copies of the draft comprehensive plan and other pertinent information that has been available since June 25, 2014 for interested parties. She then presented a PowerPoint presentation specifically on the draft Comprehensive Plan (see attached slide presentation).

5. **Public Comment:**

Chairman Judy Thorson then opened up the Hearing to take comments. Commenters were asked to give their name and address and to respect everyones' remarks and keep the time to three minutes.

- a. RESIDENT Elaine Philippi, 31647 127th Street, questioned if the goals were those created by the broader community by way of the surveys. Planner Chard replied that comment was asked for from many sources but also part of the survey. Chairperson Thorson responded that it was a compilation of many. Ms. Philippi thanked Commissioners Harris and Thorson for their failed attempt to have more community open houses as nobody could criticize the commissioners if offered and not attend.
- b. RESIDENT Anna Huehn-Shaw, 12535 320th - 1/2 Avenue, had a question on the preservation sites as it was stated that it was possibly 8 sites and now it was now down to 7 sites. Chair Judy Thorson responded that the old schoolhouse building in the Sherburne County refuge has been taken down. Supervisor Atwood stated that he believed it was the old schoolhouse on County Road 19 south of County Road 9. Chair Thorson stated that it was a misunderstanding on her part so it is now back to 8 sites. Ms. Huehn-Shaw then questioned where Dorthea Park was. Planner Chard replied that it is located in Lake Diann Acres. There was discussion regarding Goose Lake Park and Cantlin Lake. Supervisor Tom Rush, who was in the audience, informed Ms. Huehn-Shaw that the Baldwin Park Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month and invited her to attend.
- c. Planner Chard stated that, since June 25th, copies of the plan and mapping has been available and, according to the Clerk, no one has stopped in. Clerk Stevens stated that one person stopped today and that would be Anna Huehn-Shaw, who is in attendance. Commissioner Patten suggested a visit to the township website where one of the previous Supervisors wrote a history of the township.

6. **Move to close public testimony portion of the Public Hearing:**

Commissioners Perry/Carlile unanimous to close the public testimony portion of the public hearing. Chairperson Thorson thanked the audience for their remarks and stated that there



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would be no further comments taken, but that the audience could stay and hear final deliberations.

7. Planning Commission Options:

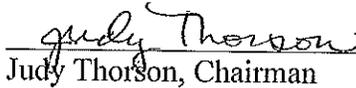
- a. Consider testimony and comments: The Planning Commission stated that they were ok with the comments and changes.
- b. Identify any major changes /then recess if there are, then identify a date, time and place: Planner Chard stated that she believes there are only format changes that would need to be done and recommended allowing the amended changes by formatting only but no major changes. *Commissioners Perry/Patten unanimous to allow format and editing but leave context alone.*
- c. *Commissioners Perry/Carlile motioned to accept the comprehensive plan and recommend approval to the town board. Commissioner Harris stated that he has serious concerns regarding the plan and believes they should have considered zoning. He believes we should have a statement of purpose and he believes the plan is too large. However, he will not stand in the way of it but hope problems will work out in the future. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

8. Adjournment.

Commissioners Perry/Carlile unanimous to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer



Judy Thorson, Chairman

Amendments: Per Audio Tape on File: Commissioner Harris stated he has serious concerns regarding the plan and he thinks we should have considered zoning with major introduction to zoning and Sherburne ordinances ahead of producing the plan. He thinks there should have been a statement of purpose and he thinks the plan is too large. However, he is not going to stand in the way of it and he will vote for the plan but hopes they can work out these problems in the future.