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# BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

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30239 128<sup>th</sup> Street, Princeton MN 55371

## PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

February 28, 2018

### **Call to Order:**

On this 28th day of February 2018 the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Baldwin Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Richard Marshall at 7:03 p.m.

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Roll Call:**

Commissioners present were Richard Marshall, Richard Harris, Scotty Harder, and Deborah Guy. Commissioner Kimberly Good is absent. Baldwin Town Board Liaison Bryan Lawrence arrived at 7:05 p.m. The sign-in sheet is attached. The Claim Forms were filled out and returned.

### **Approve/Disapprove Agenda:**

Add "Remarks Regarding Land Use" by Commissioner Harris to Old Business.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Harder to approve the regular meeting agenda as amended which was seconded by Commissioner Harris; all in favor; motion carried.*

### **Secretary's Report:**

**Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2018:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Harder to approve the Planning Commission meeting minutes of January 24, 2018 as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Harris; all in favor; motion carried.*

**Handout Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of December 27, 2017:**

The approved Planning Commission meeting minutes of December 27, 2017 were handed out and are to be filed in the commission books.

### **Land Use Requests:**

None.

### **Communications:**

Liaison Lawrence mentioned that the request for the IUP for Ray's Auto Body has not been viewed at the county level as of yet. The variance request for a setback for construction of a pool at Little Elk Lake was approved by the county. Lawrence said he attended an interesting workshop in Becker on stormwater and the MS4 requirements. Scotty Harder and Deborah Guy's appointment are up for renewal.

**Old Business:**

**Remarks on Land Use; Commissioner Harris:**

Baldwin Planning Commission opening remarks with regard to the proposed review / revision of the Land Use section of the Comprehensive Plan.

There is an agenda item titled Land Use Requests; the title of this section in the Comprehensive Plan is Land Uses; when considering variances we are advised to check compliance with the Plan. It seems that in so far as is possible we should, over time, collect the relevant items in the plan in this section. It should be worded and organized explicitly rather than vaguely to remove as much subjectivity as possible; making it matter of fact for both commissioners and petitioners to determine compliance. The point being to make it a working tool in land use management instead of stuffing in a three ring binder. 28 Feb 18

**Discuss / Update 'Land Uses' of Comprehensive Plan:**

Extensive discussion from the commissioners resulted in a thorough examination of the Land Use section of the Baldwin Township Comprehensive Plan. The general consensus was that the section needed a thorough going over with certain statements either being redacted or eliminated although it does appear that the statistics stated have not widely varied. It was established that explicit language be used, with no regulations identified but only when necessary with everything ultimately marrying up to the land use portion of the comprehensive plan. It was felt that perhaps a restructuring of the section is necessary with (1) a brief statement of where the township should go; (2) goals to make it happen; and (3) history in order to connect the past to the future. According to the commissioners, it appears that more specific revisions could be made from page 9 to 11 since goals are most important to the purposes of the planning commission committee. It is the objective of the planning commission committee to serve the residents of the township by being on top of the goals and regulations.

It was decided that Commissioner Harris would evaluate and make notations / changes for review to the Agricultural portion of the Land Use Goals / Objectives (Action Plans); Commissioner Harder would evaluate and make notations / changes for review to the Residential portion of the Land Use Goals / Objectives (Action Plans); and Commissioner Marshall would evaluate and make notations / changes for review to the Commercial and Industrial portions of the Land Use Goals / Objectives (Action Plans).

**New Business:**

**Information / Correspondence from Elly Rittenour**

For informational value.

**Commissioner's Corner:**

None.

**Adjourn:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Marshall which was seconded by Commissioner Harder to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. with the next Planning Commission meeting to be held on March 28, 2018. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.*



Respectfully submitted:  
Cheryl Goetz Dobson  
Deputy Clerk



Richard Marshall, Chairman

4-25-18  
Date

Amendments: \_\_\_\_\_