

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

30239 128th Street, Princeton MN 55371

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

November 28, 2018

Call to Order:

On this 28th day of November 2018 the regular monthly meeting of the Baldwin Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Richard Marshall at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Commissioners present were Richard Marshall, Richard Harris, and Sherry Newman. Baldwin Town Board Liaison Bryan Lawrence was in attendance. Also present were Baldwin Township Supervisors Jay Swanson, Tom Rush and Larry Handshoe. The Claim Forms were filled out and returned.

Approve / Disapprove Agenda:

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

Meet with Town Board Supervisors / Discuss Comprehensive Plan:

Commissioner Marshall welcomed the Town Board Supervisors, and after introductions, proceeded to explain how frustrating and confusing it has been for the commission to move forward to update and reconcile the Land Use portion of the Baldwin Township Comprehensive Plan with Sherburne County's Land Use Plans.

As was explained in the Baldwin Planning Commission minutes of October 24, 2018, 'The Sherburne County Comprehensive Plan includes their view of a comprehensive plan for Baldwin Township. Commissioner Marshall voiced that he felt it would be an exercise in futility to continue updating the Baldwin Township Comprehensive Plan without striving to bring the two plans into agreement. Commissioner Marshall thought it disturbing there was so much double talk between the two agreements particularly the Joint Powers Agreement. He cited that at the bottom of page 97 of the Sherburne County Comprehensive Plan which says:

"In the event a Town Board's action differs from the County Board's action (i.e. where on board approves a request while the other board denies it), Sherburne County shall enforce the County Board's action, and the township shall enforce the Town Board's action.

These Joint Powers Agreements do not apply to this Comprehensive Plan, meaning townships may adopt a Comprehensive Plan independent of the County."

Commissioner Marshall interpreted this to mean that the county would override the township which would accentuate the problem. So the determination is (1) how to find answers to any of these questions; (2) there is a need to use the Baldwin Planning Commission liaison as a liaison to the

county in order to try to obtain these answers; and (3) the Baldwin Planning Commission cannot go further with updating the Comprehensive Plan until there is a satisfactory solution to bringing the two agreements into one unified document.’

Commissioner Harris has spoken with Marc Schneider, Sherburne County Planner, and Mitch Glines, Sherburne County Zoning Specialist, who seemingly showed no hesitation with the concept of reconciling the two plans although they indicated that they were unaware that Baldwin Township had its own Comprehensive Plan. This facilitated discussion on whether Baldwin Township should form their own planning and zoning. Even though they would not be opposed the county asks for a 1-year notice. It was also stressed to be prepared on what kind of a cost forming a planning and zoning would have on the taxpayers.

The planning commission summed up by saying that they want a ‘go ahead’ with a critical eye from the representatives of Baldwin Township to make the comprehensive plans compatible with the county. It is the intention to have the land use portion of the comprehensive plan finished by the Spring of 2019 with the objective of making ‘it what we want it to be’ by putting ‘blindness’ on to make believe the county doesn’t exist.

Secretary’s Report:

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2018:

A motion was made by Commissioner Newman to approve the Planning Commission meeting minutes of October 24, 2018 which was seconded by Commissioner Harris; all in favor; motion carried.

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2018:

The approved Planning Commission meeting minutes of September 26, 2018 were handed out and are to be filed in the commission books.

Interview / Approve / Disapprove Recommendation of Clarence Mattson to Baldwin Planning Commission:

A motion was made by Commissioner Newman to approve recommending the appointment of Clarence Mattson to the Baldwin Township Planning Commission which was seconded by Commissioner Marshall; all in favor; motion carried.

Land Use Requests:

None.

Communications:

Liaison Lawrence said he was gratified to see all of the Baldwin supervisors present at the meeting to discuss the issues surrounding the comprehensive plans.

Old Business:

Discuss / Update ‘Land Uses’ of Comprehensive Plan:

The commissioners were asked by Chairman Marshall to look at and compare both the Sherburne County Comprehensive Plan and the current Baldwin Township Land Use Plan; and to put their thoughts and questions on paper in order to prepare for discussion at the January 2019 meeting.

Chapters 1 and 8 as well as Chapter 9 of the Sherburne County Comprehensive Plan will be included in the packets for comparison and review.

New Business:

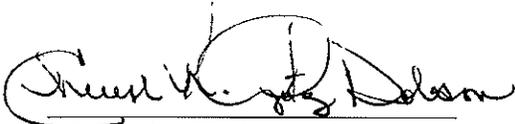
- Information / Misty Hollow / Preliminary Plat Approval

Commissioner's Corner:

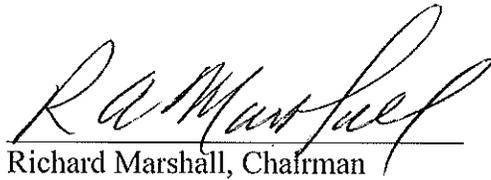
None.

Adjourn:

A motion was made by Commissioner Harris which was seconded by Commissioner Newman to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. with the next Planning Commission meeting to be held on January 23, 2019. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.



Respectfully submitted:
Cheryl Goetz Dobson
Deputy Clerk



Richard Marshall, Chairman

1-23-19
Date

Attendees: Clarence Mattson