

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

30239 128th Street, Princeton MN 55371

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

June 12, 2014

Call to Order:

The June 12, 2014 Baldwin Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Judy Thorson at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioners Ross Perry, Terry Carlile, Rich Harris, Peggy Patten and Judy Thorson. 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.

Move to Approve/Amend Agenda:

Add to New Business "Discuss Transportation Needs".

Commissioners Patton/Ross unanimous to approve agenda as amended.

Claim Forms:

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

Secretary's Report:

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of 21.May.14/Move to Approve:

Commissioners Carlile/Patten to approve the Planning Commission minutes of May 21, 2014.

Handout Signed 22.April.14 and 08.May.14 Approved Minutes to Planning Commission:

The signed and approved minutes of April 22, 2014 and May 8, 2014 were distributed in order to be added to the commission books.

Public Input:

None.

Communications from Town Board/Liaison:

Comments Regarding the Sherburne County Amendment Revisions – Liaison

Atwood said that the amendment revisions were sent to Sherburne County as presented verbatim by the Baldwin Planning Commission.

Old Business and Reports

Comprehensive Plan; Final Comments/Revisions:

Planner Chard provided updated copies of the Comprehensive Plan and reviewed only the portions where spelling, punctuation and spacing were corrected. The Commissioners are still encouraged to continue reviewing the plan as it is considered a perpetual work in progress.

After complimenting the effort that has gone into the Comprehensive Plan, Commissioner Harris presented an 8 point personal review of his observations. These observations included having a Vision Statement, concerns with potential conflicting goals, bureaucratic burdens, vague words and phrases and questions regarding business incubators.

Commissioners Carlile/Patten unanimous to put a draft Mission Statement together for the Township Board to review.

Set Up Open Houses/Public Hearing Date:

There was intense discussion to forego an open house(s) and have the Comprehensive Plan to go directly to a Public Hearing. One public hearing is required after which the Planning Commission can review comments from the public then make recommendations to the town board. *Commissioners Carlile/Ross motion to cancel the open houses and go directly to a public hearing. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners Perry, Patten and Carlile in favor; Commissioners Thorson and Harris opposed. Motion carries.*

Commissioners Thorson/Harris motion to recommend to the town board to have five (5) copies of the Comprehensive Plan available 10 days before the Public Hearing marked draft and publicize that the draft Comprehensive Plan can be purchased. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioners Harris and Thorson in favor; Commissioner Perry opposed; and Commissioners Patten and Carlile abstaining. Motion fails.

Five (5) copies of the draft Comprehensive Plan will be made available to review at the Town Hall ten (10) days before the Public Hearing.

Commissioners Thorson/Harris unanimous to approve having the Public Hearing on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin Town Hall.

Work with BVC on Meetings/Room Setup:

Since there will be no open houses, the Planning Commission won't need help with room setup or refreshments.

New Business

4R Board Park Meeting:

Commissioner Harris attended the May 4R Board meeting and reported on their progress. They are still actively pursuing constructing a trail system from Elk River northward.

Discuss Transportation Needs:

Commissioner Carlile stressed there is emerging costs with road damage as well as the need to either repair or purchase maintenance vehicles with no extra funding to do so. It was suggested that Liaison Atwood ask the town board to revisit the annual meeting in order to inform the public about the seriousness of the repairs needed to both the roads and the vehicles; and the need to increase the dollar amount for road and bridge expenses.

Commissioners Perry/Patton unanimous to suggest the town board consider looking at a 5 year road plan with bonding or alternate ways to pay for services and equipment for Baldwin Township. There is a need to look closer at the financial picture for roads and maintenance.

Sherburne County Land Use Ordinance/Township MOU/Begin Review:

A binder with the Sherburne County Land Use Ordinances were given to each commissioner to review.

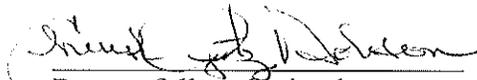
Agenda Items for Next Month:

- Ordinance Review Continued
- Mission Statement

Commissioners Patten/Carlile unanimous to change the date of the next regular planning commission meeting to July 9, 2014 following the Public Hearing.

Adjourn:

Commissioners Perry/Carlile unanimous to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. with the next Planning Commission meeting to be held on June 9, 2014 after the Public Hearing at the Baldwin Town Hall.



Respectfully submitted:
Cheryl Goetz Dobson
Deputy Clerk



Judy Thorson, Chairman

Amendments: _____