

# July 25, 2017 Planning Commission Minutes

Royalton Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

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25 July 2017

Approved

7:02 p.m., 25 July 2017, Chair Leslie Orvis called the Royalton Township planning commission regular meeting to order, with Members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, Duane Swanson and Gary Valvoda present.

Member Valvoda moved, Member Schlaeger seconded, to add fencing to the agenda and to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Valvoda read the minutes of the commission meeting of 27 June 2017. Member Schlaeger moved, Member Valvoda seconded, to approve the minutes as read. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Valvoda moved, Member Schneider seconded, to approve the minutes of the working planning commission meeting of 11 July as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

## Old Business:

Chair Orvis reported that the commission had studied the blight and nuisance ordinances and was comfortable with their wording as currently written. Member Valvoda moved, Member Schlaeger seconded, to report this to the board with the recommendation for no action at this time. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Swanson reported on the discussion regarding town line roads, noting that the working meeting had an extensive discussion regarding the Minnesota Association of Townships' model agreement on the issue. Members felt that it was important to recommend a written agreement to our partner townships but that the recommended MAT agreement did not fulfill Royalton's wishes. Royalton would prefer a continuation of the current practice of alternate year

responsibilities rather than a physical division of the maintenance responsibilities for town line roads. The commission will draft an agreement for the board to consider and, pending approval of that draft, begin discussions with partner townships.

Member Valvoda updated the commission on the 5 July 2017 meeting of the Pine County Board of Adjustment (which he chairs) that had considered a variance request from Scott Ovick (Parcel ID #29.0003.000) for various structures and setbacks in the Shorelands District. The board ultimately approved the variance requests with certain conditions on some of the structures. Royalton Township chair Marshall Pearson attended the meeting and thanked the county for notifying Royalton about this request and offering the township the opportunity to provide input.

#### New Business:

Chair Orvis and Member Swanson reported on the extensive discussion about a possible fencing ordinance. The commission reviewed relevant ordinances from other townships, the position

paper issued by the Minnesota Association of Townships, and the Minnesota Fence Law (M.S. 344). The commission agrees that drafting of a limited ordinance is in the best interests of the township and will continue to work toward that goal. Current consensus is that the ordinance would relate to fences essentially blocking visual nuisances and would not include property line fences, which are adequately covered by state laws. Member Valvoda reported that the Pine County zoning ordinance does not address fences, although the Chisago County one does.

Chair Orvis called the next working planning commission for 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, 8 August. The public is invited. He also noted that the next regular planning commission meeting would be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 29 August 2017.

At 7:21 p.m., Chair Orvis moved, Member Valvoda seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Leslie Orvis, Chair

Jeff Schlaeger, Member

Priscilla Schneider, Member

Gary Valvoda, Member