

April 9, 2019 Planning Commission Working Minutes

Royalton Township Working Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
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9 April 2019
Approved

6:30 p.m., 9 April 2019, Chair Leslie Orvis convened the Royalton Township working planning commission meeting with members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, Duane Swanson, and Gary Valvoda present. Supervisor Marshall Pearson also attended.

The commission discussed the chloriding of Maple Shores Drive as directed by the board. In 2018, 939 gallons of calcium chloride had been applied at a cost of \$835.71. 2018 was the second year of the test. General discussion centered around the issues of possible favoritism, should adjacent residents be asked to pay (and, if so, how much), and what grading costs are being saved. Three scenarios were discussed: 1) Don't do anything; 2) The township simply accrues the cost because of the savings in grading fees; 3) Residents pay part or all of the cost. The successful chloriding of Harvest and Canary by the county was given as an example of positive benefits. Member Schneider will call Envirotech and get the cost per mile of application, noting that the road has been sprayed two years in a row. The consensus of the meeting appeared to be that having chlorided two years in a row the township should wait a year to see how the results hold up, grade it minimally if at all, and carefully monitor its condition (with the help of the residents). Last year the estimated grading savings was approximately \$800.

Members Swanson and Schneider updated the commission on the permit filing upgrade and the status of transferring the permit files from Braham. All sewer permits have been integrated into the PID system and most building permits from 2006 on. It is hoped that the permit files from Braham will be transferred by the end of April. Chair Orvis will contact Richard Drotning, city inspector for Rock Creek, to see if he would be willing to come to a working meeting (maybe in May) to discuss the inspection procedures in his jurisdictions.

Clerk Swanson will copy and distribute the current snow and ice policy so that members can review it at the next working meeting

In light of the discussion at the annual meeting where some residents expressed opinions that the current fund balances were too high, the commission discussed the option of line items for equipment and facility upgrades. The consensus seemed to be that separate accounts were not necessary but that a statement could accompany the treasurer's report that the general and/or road and bridge funds contained a certain amount of monies set aside for specific upgrades. The commission will study further and may make recommendations in this regard. Supervisor Pearson noted that, if all current bills are paid, monies from the road and bridge and the fire funds can be transferred to the general fund if needed (this conclusion came from training

offered at the Spring 2019 MAT short courses). Potentially significant upgrades to Raspberry Road South and Pine Bough Road were identified as examples for which monies may need to be earmarked.

Supervisor Pearson and Clerk Swanson showed the MnDOT map of Royalton Township that was picked up at training. Some of the recommended changes had been made and others were omitted. There are several errors that should be corrected. More study will be done to identify those and report them to MnDOT.

At 8:10 p.m., the meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted:

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Leslie Orvis, Chair/Member

Jeff Schlaeger, Member

Priscilla Schneider, Member

Gary Valvoda, Member

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