

# October 20, 2020 Planning Commission Working Minutes

Royalton Township Working Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

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20 October 2020

Approved

6:35 p.m., 20 October 2020, Chair Leslie Orvis convened the Royalton Township working planning commission meeting with members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, Duane Swanson and Gary Valvoda present. Social distancing was observed and masks were worn.

Clerk Swanson explained suggested changes on the variance application form: correcting the e-mail address on page 1, adding space to record the action and rationale for the decision rendered by the Board of Supervisors, and adding a "Drafted by" statement on page 2. Members suggested adding a statement noting that "A copy this variance shall be recorded with the Pine County Auditor as required by Royalton's zoning ordinance." Clerk Swanson will incorporate the suggested changes into a draft for the regular commission meeting.

Chair Orvis called for discussion on Mr. Mike Murphy's request to abandon a small portion of Riverbed Road adjacent to his property. Members reviewed the survey plat prepared for Mr. Murphy. Members expressed concern over access to the two lots now not served by this extension (but served by Mr. Murphy via a private drive). Since all four lots are owned by Mr. Murphy, combining all four into one PID would resolve access issues. If the lots are not combined into one PID, there was discussion of the need for written assurance on the part of the landowner to provide a 66' easement to the far two lots. Discussions will continue.

Chair Orvis called for a review of draft #2 of the solar energy systems ordinance. A line by line review resulted in tentative approval of most of the suggested changes. Chair Orvis will investigate the megawatt capacity clause of Section 2.B, although consensus seemed to be that the capacity limit should be removed. There seemed to be consensus that Community/Commercial systems must be located on parcels of land no less than 20 acres and that additional standards should include the "most recent" (rather than the "current") requirements. Clerk Swanson will update draft #2.

Considerable discussion occurred about whether or not to establish an "equipment fund" via separate levy. The consensus seemed to be that this would be a good idea that would protect monies for future equipment while also reducing the general fund balance that some residents have thought to be too large. Clerk Swanson will provide an equipment inventory for the next regular meeting.

At 8:15 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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