Royalton Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

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25 April 2023

Unapproved

7:00 p.m., 25 April 2023, Chair Leslie Orvis called the Royalton Township regular planning commission meeting to order with Members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, Gary Valvoda, and Clerk Duane Swanson present. Supervisor John Graham, Supervisor Marshall Pearson, Septic Administrator Amy Thompson, Road Superintendent Dan Saumer, Zoning Administrator John Kemen, Deputy Clerk Andrea Anderson, and members of the public also attended.

Clerk Swanson moved, Member Valvoda seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Valvoda moved, Member Schneider seconded, to approve the minutes of the 28 March 2023 regular commission meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Schneider moved, Member Valvoda seconded, to approve the minutes of the working planning commission meeting of 18 April 2023 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Chair Orvis reported on the deliberations regarding non-permanent structures. More discussion will be held at the next working meeting. Chair Orvis noted that he will have the diagram of the permit process available at the next working meeting.

Chair Orvis noted that study has begun on an ordinance relating to short-term rentals and similar businesses. The Pine County ordinance, among others, will be studied.

New Business:

Members reviewed the updated site permit application. This draft combines the already approved-in-concept application for accessory permits and the original site permit application for primary dwellings, driveway/culvert permits, fences, etc. Zoning Administrator Kemen and Clerk Swanson had drafted this merged document. After discussion, Member Valvoda moved, Clerk Swanson seconded, to recommend to the board adoption of the site permit dated 25 April 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Administrator Kemen commented that the ordinance update discussion should include changing the size of signs.

Chair Orvis reviewed his attendance at the 20 April Pine County Planning meeting on economic development and zoning. He noted that there was much discussion and dissension from some township officials who did not want any interference from the county on zoning issues. He commented that Royalton has always been “ahead of the game” and that has served the township well. Clerk Swanson, who attended the meeting via Zoom, noted that there seemed to be a disconnect between the push for economic development and the reality of township life. What may be good for cities may not work for townships.

Chair Orvis called the next working commission meeting for 6:30 p.m., 16 May 2023. Included on the agenda will be the nonpermanent structures discussion and the issue of vacation rental buildings.

LO\_\_\_\_ JS\_\_\_\_ PS\_\_\_\_ DS\_\_\_\_ GV\_\_\_\_

FYI:

The next regular planning commission meeting is 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 30 May 2023.

At 7:20 p.m., Member Valvoda moved, Member Schlaeger seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Leslie Orvis, Chair/Member

Jeff Schlaeger, Member

Priscilla Schneider, Member

Gary Valvoda, Member