Royalton Township Working Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

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16 May 2023

Unapproved

6:30 p.m., 16 May 2023, Chair Leslie Orvis convened the Royalton Township working planning commission meeting with Members Priscilla Schneider, Duane Swanson, and Gary Valvoda present, and Member Jeff Schlaeger absent. Supervisor John Graham, Septic Administrator Amy Thompson, and Deputy Clerk Andrea Anderson also attended.

Chair Orvis presented a flow chart diagram of the proposed “small shed” permitting process. Members reviewed each element, with many questions and much discussion. If “shed” is used, it needs to be defined and differentiated from other structures. How does this relate to large agricultural sheds that require site permits but not necessarily building permits? Should this include all structures that don’t require a building permit issued by the building official? Chair Orvis asked members to study these questions and others for review at a future meeting.

A general discussion followed about the efficacy of taking over planning and zoning in the Shorelands District. While this would give the township greater say in the management of the district, it would also require greater expertise not now presently available to the township.

Chair Orvis noted that he had received numerous complaints about specific properties with potential blight issues, some appearing to involve health concerns as well. The commission reviewed several of these properties. Clerk Swanson noted that the township had a Citizen Complaint Form on which these issues could be communicated to the township. Deputy Clerk Anderson made copies of the form for members, who reviewed it. If a citizen filed such a complaint, the board must consider it and report on the board’s findings.

Chair Orvis distributed copies of Pine County’s no smoking policy and urged its consideration by the board.

Zoning Administrator John Kemen’s recommendations on a campground ordinance were distributed and members were urged to study it.

A general discussion followed about the impact of the soon-to-be-adopted marijuana sale and use law. Should the township consider a moratorium on the sale until an ordinance regulating the sale can be considered?

At 8:17 p.m., Chair Orvis concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Leslie Orvis, Chair/Member

Jeff Schlaeger, Member

Priscilla Schneider, Member

Gary Valvoda, Member