

Royalton Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes  
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006  
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30 January 2024  
Approved

7:00 p.m., 30 January 2024, Chair Leslie Orvis called the Royalton Township regular planning commission meeting to order with Members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, and Clerk Duane Swanson present in the meeting room and Gary Valvoda present via remote visual and audible electronic means. Zoning Administrator John Kemen, Septic Administrator Amy Thompson, Road Superintendent Dan Saumer, Deputy Clerk Andrea Anderson, Supervisors Marshall Pearson and John Graham, and members of the public also attended.

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

Member Schlaeger moved, Member Schneider seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular commission meeting of 19 December 2023 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Valvoda moved, Member Schlaeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the working commission meeting of 16 January 2024 as presented.

Old Business:

Chair Orvis reported on the public hearing for an interim use permit for Daniel Smith that had been held earlier in the evening. He asked for further discussion about the sign, specifically in relation to the road right-of-way. The potential sign has the approval of the Pine County road authorities. Discussion about the sheer strength of the wood posts was inconclusive, with the consensus being that the existing posts met specifications. This application will be discussed at the next working meeting. Clerk Swanson distributed a draft "Findings of Fact" for members to consider at that meeting.

Chair Orvis noted that the administrative citation ordinance will go forward at the next working meeting.

There were no updates on the ordinances governing short-term rentals or campgrounds.

Chair Orvis returned to the discussion of no smoking signs for the town hall and buildings. He showed a proposed sign made by Supervisor John Graham. He noted that the rental agreement states no smoking is to occur within 30 feet of the entrance. After discussion, Member Schneider moved, Member Schlaeger seconded, to recommend to the board that smoking be prohibited within 30 feet of entry/exit doors or any equipment, including the playground. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Orvis then noted that this included the smoking of marijuana or cannabis. He noted that the township cannot forbid the growing of hemp or cannabis but that the growing of cannabis can be regulated by the town. Joe Zappa was present to report on his progress with negotiations for a hemp/cannabis growing operation within the town. He has a state license to grow hemp this winter/spring and is in the process of requesting a license to grow (not retail) cannabis, under state regulations. He repeated his desire to work with the township on fencing, security, and septic issues.

Chair Orvis set the next working planning commission for 20 February 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

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

FYI:

The next regular planning commission meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 27 February 2024.

At 7:31 p.m., Clerk Swanson moved, Member Schneider 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