

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes June 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Trent Larson at 8:00 p.m.

Present were: Jim Hagerty, Trent Larson, Jared Sachs, Chris Williamson, Jane Kansier, Charles Seipel and liaison Ed Gerten.

A group of residents from the Empire Preserve Association were present to discuss their support for the adoption of an ordinance preventing registered predatory offenders from living within certain distances of parks, daycares and schools in the Township. They stated that other cities in the County have adopted similar ordinances. Jane Kansier reported that at this time the Township's attorney is not recommending the adoption of such an ordinance as municipalities in the State are being sued and losing in court because the ordinances are not valid under State Statute. The Planning Commission recommended that the issue be discussed at the next Town Board meeting.

Susan Stewart with Highland Sanitation was present to request zoning information for a 5 acre parcel near the Highway 52 interchange, next to Coats city limits. They would like to construct a truck housing facility for their sanitation business. It was reported that the 2040 Comprehensive Plan calls for this parcel to become zoned as Commercial and the proposed facility would need to be located on a property that is zoned Industrial. To make it work, the Township would need to file an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. Jane Kansier reported that amendments to the Comprehensive Plan cannot be filed until the plan has been approved by the Metropolitan Council. She is hoping that this will be sometime this fall. Once the Township receives a letter that the Comprehensive Plan is complete, the Met Council still has 120 days to make a decision to accept the plan. The Planning Commission recommended that Highland Sanitation check with Dakota County regarding a possible reconfiguration of County Road 81, adjacent to this property.

Representatives from the properties at 16273 & 16275 Chippendale Ave were present to discuss the zoning classification for these properties. They would like to have the option of rezoning the properties to suit a potential buyer in a possible sale of the property. An amendment to the Comprehensive Plan will also be needed to rezone the properties. The properties are also located in the mining overlay district. Any possible land use change for properties in the mining overlay district would need to come before the Town Board.

Discussion was held on getting the Comprehensive Plan amendment applications submitted once the Township has been made aware that the plan has been listed as complete by the Met Council.

The Planning Commission reviewed the fees for false alarm calls from other, nearby cities in Dakota County. After discussion, A motion by Trent Larson to recommend the adoption of an

amendment to the Emergency Response Services Ordinance (505) to incorporate a fee structure for false alarm calls to the fire department that follows the City of Farmington's fee structure. Seconded by Jared Sachs. Motion carried 4-0.

It was reported that there will be an FPAC Meeting on June 18, 6:30 PM, at Empire Town Hall. Ed Gerten recommended that a proposed sewer line from a new development in Farmington East be on the agenda for this meeting.

The Planning Commission reviewed information from the Met Council regarding 2018 population estimates. Jane Kansier reported on how population growth in the immediate area compares with the rest of the Metropolitan Area.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.