



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

January 17, 2019

Present: Mark Votava, Dave Sanocki, Betsy Vance, Brian Krafthefer, Sean Flaherty, Ed Gorman, Del Miske, Supervisor Steve Ebner

Call to Order:

Mr. Mark Votava called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Krafthefer moved to approve the minutes of the November 2018 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gorman, the motion carried.

Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Votava presented the current status of the comprehensive plan. Minor typographical errors were noted and corrected. Mr. Gorman moved to post the document as the final draft to the Met Council website. Seconded by Mr. Sanocki, the motion carried.

GIS Software

The township has a license for GIS software previously maintained by Mr. Dave Dupay. With his retirement from the planning commission, a new superuser for the software needs to be identified and trained. The planning commission in its entirety will be invited to upcoming training being scheduled by the clerk.

Tree Management Ordinances:

Mr. Matt Schmitt, M&S Tree Service, met with the planning commission to review potential considerations for ordinances on the maintenance of trees and the township right of way. It was recommended that performance standards recommended by the Minnesota Department of Transportation be considered. These standards can be found at https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/training/fhwasa07018/

Additional areas be considered include vegetation control, clearing of self propagating trees as saplings, and maintenance standards for areas within 15 feet of the road surface, and obstacles in the ditches and right of way.

A review of the current ordinance noted that there are a number of provisions already within the document, and a policy document that gathers and clarifies the provisions might be sufficient. Mr. Flaherty agreed to review the current ordinance and provide a summary for review at the next meeting with regard to right of way and road maintenance. He will initiate a discussion of potential areas of improvement, policy statement or other discussion

New Business:

Mr. Miske suggested the township review the ordinances on chickens. The current ordinance restrictions were drafted when Washington County had zoning authority in the township. That condition is no longer applicable, and a revision of these standards may be more appropriate.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Feb 21. Supervisor Schultz will be invited to attend as the board liaison in Supervisor Ebner's absence.

Adjourn

Having no further business, Mr. Gorman moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Kraftefer, the motion carried. Mr. Votava adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Vance". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue rectangular highlight behind it.

Elizabeth A. Vance
Secretary