

Bridgewater Township Planning Commission
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
January 6, 2021
Official Minutes

- ❖ John Klockeman called the meeting to order at 7:00
- ❖ Members present were Larry Alderks, Frances Boehning, Ray Larson, Kurt Schrader, Bruce Morlan, and John Klockeman. Supervisors present were Kathleen Kopseng, and Tracy Jonkman. Staff present was Cindy Nash.
- ❖ Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, Ray Larson seconded, all approved.
- ❖ Ray Larson made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2020, Bruce Morlan seconded, all approved.
- ❖ The Open Forum was opened and closed at 7:05 pm.
- ❖ Old Business:
 - Solar Ordinance Amendments
 - Cindy Nash reviewed the suggested amendments to the current solar energy ordinance.
 - Clarifying language was added in numerous places.
 - A discussion was held regarding the appropriate placement of community solar gardens in the township. The current CER map of the township was reviewed and debated. In an effort to avoid future issues, the Commission determined that the current requirement of a Crop Equivalent Rating of less than 65 would be maintained. This determination will be based on the GIS Beacon quarter/quarter map.
 - Following a discussion, it was determined that a paragraph will be added to the community solar garden performance standards to require ground cover to be pollinator friendly.
 - The solar ordinance, with discussed changes, will be presented at a public hearing during the next Planning Commission on January 28th.
 - Comprehensive Plan/Township Zoning Ordinances
 - Cindy Nash reviewed that work to clarify future possibilities is being reviewed prior to moving forward with the comp plan and changes to zoning ordinances.
- ❖ New Business: None
- ❖ Miscellaneous:
 - The list of permits, lot splits, and variances in 2020 were reviewed. This information will be provided to the Commissioners on a regular basis.
 - The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28th, via a GoToMeeting online link.
- ❖ Adjourn:
 - Ray Larson made a motion to adjourn, Kurt Schrader seconded, all approved.