

*Bridgewater Township Planning Commission
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
October 28, 2021
Official Minutes*

- ❖ John Klockeman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- ❖ Members present were John Klockeman, Frances Boehning, Ray Larson, Bruce Morlan, Kurt Schrader and Jeff Johnson. Staff present was Cindy Nash. Township Supervisor present was Mike Little.
- ❖ Guests: Kathleen Kopseng, Glen Castore, and Bryan Finley

- ❖ Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the amended agenda, Jeff Johnson seconded, motion approved.

- ❖ Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the minutes of September 30th, 2021, Jeff Johnson seconded, motion approved.

- ❖ The Open Forum was opened and closed at 7:06 pm. No comments.

- ❖ Public Hearing: None

- ❖ Old Business:
 - Joint Powers Update:
 - Glen Castore reviewed the purpose of the Forest/Bridgewater Joint Powers agreement. The focus of the group is to provide sewer and water to the industrial area along I35.

 - Industrial Zone Update
 - Approval of the ordinance change to create a Rural Industrial Area in Rice County was received from the Rice County Commissioners on October 26th.
 - The next steps are:
 - Creation of a Bridgewater Township Ordinance for Rural Industrial.
 - Rezoning of properties at the County level.

 - Ordinances
 - Accessory Buildings and Standards.
 - Cindy Nash reviewed the current Bridgewater ordinance regarding accessory buildings and standards. The current Township ordinance is more restrictive than Rice County.
 - A discussion was held regarding the goal of the ordinance.
 - The following changes were recommended
 - Section 20-8 a. – remove the option of Town Board approval.
 - Section 20-8 c. – Cindy Nash will research what “attached accessory building” refers to.
 - Section 20-8 e. – Cindy Nash will update the definition of “storage structures”.
 - Section 20-8 e. – The size limitations will apply to Platted Residential Neighborhoods.
 - Section 20-8 f. – move to number 6 under section 20-8 e.

- A section will be added regarding pods/storage containers in platted residential areas.
 - The Accessory Building and Standards ordinance will come before the Planning Commission as a Public Hearing on December 9th, at 7:00 pm.
 - Septic Ordinance.
 - The current septic ordinance was discussed.
 - A suggestion was made to require that a second septic site be identified on new parcels.
 - The difficulties of enforcing the operating permits for alternative systems was reviewed.
 - The current Scott County septic ordinance regarding alternative systems was reviewed.
 - The Planning Commission recommended that the Bridgewater Septic ordinance be revised to include the part of the Scott County ordinance relating to type II, III, IV, and V systems.
 - The revised ordinance will be reviewed during the next meeting.
 - Rural Business Licensing Ordinance
 - Cindy Nash reviewed the current ordinance.
 - Following a discussion, the Commissioners agreed to change the term “licensing” to “registration. This was done as the Township is not issuing licenses to operate a business.
 - A discussion was held regarding the need to enforce the ordinances and the resources necessary to do so.
 - The Planning Commission requests direction from the Board of Supervisors regarding enforcement of ordinances.
 - Suggestions were made to the business registration form.
- ❖ New Business
- Updates from Board of Supervisors
 - Supervisor Mike Little reviewed the recent Board of Supervisors meeting.
- ❖ Updates and Miscellaneous
- Upcoming meeting dates
 - Due to the holidays in November and December, a single meeting will be held on Thursday, December 9th, at 7:00 pm at the Bridgewater Town Hall.

Ray Larson made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 pm, Bruce Morlan seconded, motion approved.