

*Bridgewater Township Planning Commission
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
December 9, 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, Larry Alderks, and Jeff Johnson. Staff present was Cindy Nash.
- ❖ Guests: Bryan Finley and family, Supervisor Andy Ebling, Supervisor Glen Castore.

- ❖ Jeff Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda, Larry Alderks seconded, motion approved.

- ❖ Ray Larson made a motion to approve the minutes of October 28th, 2021, Kurt Schrader seconded, motion approved.

- ❖ The Open Forum was opened and closed at 7:03 pm. No comments.

- ❖ Public Hearing:
 - Finley Interim Use Permit
 - Cindy Nash reviewed the application from Brian Finley.
 - The Planning Commission discussed the current ordinances regarding accessory buildings and home occupations. It was noted that a home occupation may only use 2,000 sq ft of an accessory building.
 - Jeff Johnson made a motion to approve the amended Resolution 2022-01 for the Interim Use Permit for Home Occupation for Bryan and Rebeca Finley, Larry Alderks seconded the amended resolution, resolution was amended to include Saturday hours from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.
 - Public Hearing was opened at 7:36 pm
 - The Finley representatives agreed to the amended hours
 - Glen Castore appreciated the modified hours
 - Kurt Schrader stated that he would recuse himself from the vote as he has a financial interest in the building of the accessory structures.
 - The Public Hearing was closed at 7:38 pm.
 - The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-01 for the Interim Use Permit for Rebecca and Bryan Finley. The Resolution will go to the Board of Supervisors on January 12, 2022.

 - Rural Industrial Zone
 - A discussion was held regarding the redlined ordinances.
 - Glen Castore reviewed the status of the possibility of sewer and water and the objectives of the Forest/Bridgewater Joint Powers agreement. The funding mechanisms were reviewed.
 - The Planning Commission discussed the lot sizes, setbacks, and the affect on storm water runoff.
 - John Klockeman noted that a lot of work needs to be done to add stricter language to the ordinances that protect the area.
 - A discussion was held regarding the future of the industrial area in the township.

- John Klockeman strongly requested that the comp plan be discussed by the Board of Supervisors at the next meeting.
 - Bruce Morlan made a motion to table the rural industrial zone public hearing, Kurt Schrader seconded, all approved.
 - Accessory Buildings
 - Cindy Nash reviewed the redline ordinance change.
 - John Klockeman asked if containers would be permitted for storage. The Planning Commissioners discussed and determined that as long as the containers are kept neat, they would be permitted. Cindy Nash will research if containers are considered an accessory structure.
 - A discussion was held regarding what constitutes an accessory building. It was determined that containers would be left out of the language at this time.
 - The Public Hearing was opened at 7:52
 - The Public Hearing was closed at 7:53 as there was no comment.
 - Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the Accessory Building Ordinance, Jeff Johnson seconded, all approved.
 - A discussion regarding current building heights and permit reviews for ag building was held.
- ❖ Old Business
 - Jacobson Towing I.U.P. Review.
 - The current situation was reviewed. Cindy Nash will conduct a site visit when possible.
 - The Planning Commission recommended sending a letter to the owner, Jesse Jacobson.
 - SMC/OMG Gravel Mine
 - The current I.U.P has expired. The original C.U.P issued by Rice Cty was reviewed. Cindy Nash will review the options available.
 - Glen Castore noted that the Supervisors will look into talking to Rice Cty regarding enforcement of the older C.U.Ps issued by Rice Cty.
- ❖ Updates and Miscellaneous
 - Dundas Treatment Plant.
 - Bruce Morlan noted that Northfield informed Dundas that they were exceeding the allotted percentage of the use of the Northfield sewer treatment plant.

Larry Alderks made a motion to adjourn at 9:48 pm, Bruce Morlan seconded, motion approved.