

**Barnesville Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Barnesville Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Merlin Strom at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Steve Mortenson, Margaret Follingstad, Merlin Strom, Mike Detloff, Mike Osten, Pat Berndt, Aaron Grommesh, and Karen Lauer, Zoning Administrator.

Members absent: Gary Fraedrich.

Others present: Pam Aakre of the Barnesville Record-Review.

AGENDA

3-3-08-01 Motion by Detloff and seconded by Mortenson to approve the agenda. Unanimously carried.

MINUTES

3-3-08-02 Motion by Osten and seconded by Follingstad to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2008 meeting with the following addition of to the first sentence in Subd. 3. Exiting Exterior solid Fuel-Fired Heating Devices – All existing exterior solid fuel units. Unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE REGULATING SOLID FUEL-FIRED HEATING DEVICES

Karen Lauer reported that the second reading of the proposed ordinance will be at the City Council meeting on Monday, March 10. The Planning Commission needs to come to an agreement on the stack height issue at this meeting if it is to be included in the initial adoption of the ordinance. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has only suggested language that may or may not be used. Central Boiler is a manufacturer of solid fuel-fired heating devices. They provided documentation of several options for smokestacks of varying heights for the devices. The City Attorney prepared some language for smokestack height and variances but he is not in favor of using the variance option. The language becomes too arbitrary. If a variance is granted and neighbors or conditions changes, the variance would have to remain and homeowners may not be satisfied. Karen Lauer noted it may be better to set a specific smokestack height. Commission members discussed the impact on the four existing devices and the neighborhoods where they are located. Karen Lauer noted that the manufacturers will work with the device owners to meet ordinance requirements. The City would need to give the home owners a period of six months to complete the addition to the smokestack height.

3-3-08-03 Motion by Mortenson and seconded by Osten to recommend to the City Council to add the following language to Subd. 3 of the Solid Fuel-Fired Heating Devices ordinance. Unanimously carried.

- D) Existing exterior solid fuel-fired heating devices must have an attached permanent stack which extends a minimum of 20 feet above the ground. Lower stacks of any existing units shall be extended or replaced within six (6) months after adoption of this ordinance.

PROPOSED HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Merlin Strom reviewed a preliminary drawing of the parking lot at the high school. It was noted that the parking lot surface would either be asphalt or concrete.

UPDATE ON CM REPAIR

Karen Lauer reported that many years ago the City was involved in legal action against CM Repair. The City won the judgment that the business cannot run a salvage yard. The Judge ruled that the situation needed to be corrected. The business has been instructed to remove the miscellaneous auto parts by a specific date. If the business is not in compliance, the City Council will need to take action which can result in daily fines.

JOINT MEETING WITH PARKS & REC BOARD

The Planning Commission will meet with the Parks & Rec Board on Monday, April 7. The regular Planning Commission business meeting will follow the joint meeting.

BUILDING PERMIT LIST

The building permits for February 1 – February 26, 2008 were reviewed. Karen Lauer noted that three of the building permits are residential projects that are under the Small Cities Grant the City received.

The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday, April 7, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

3-3-08-04 Motion by Osten and seconded by Detloff to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Pat Berndt
Planning Commission Secretary