

**Barnesville Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, November 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, Gary Fraedrich, Merlin Strom, Pat Berndt, Mike Detloff, Matthew Wever, and Karen Lauer, Zoning Administrator.

Members absent: Margaret Follingstad, Mike Osten.

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

**AGENDA**

**11-03-08-01** Motion by Fraedrich and seconded by Mortenson to approve the agenda with the addition of Planning Commission Terms and Temporary Structures. Unanimously carried.

**MINUTES**

**11-03-08-02** Motion by Detloff and seconded by Berndt to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2008 meeting. Unanimously carried.

**POPPEL CUP**

Karen Lauer reviewed the CUP which was originally issued to JTT's Auto Salvage in 1996. Karen Lauer did talk with Mr. Poppel who was not available to meet with the Planning Commission at the current meeting. It was noted that the fence around the yard is up as of today. Mr. Poppel indicated he is in negotiation with the railroad for the 2009 lease and he intends to continue the operation. Mr. Poppel also said he has been approached by someone who would like to purchase the business. The State of Minnesota is not releasing any new crushing leases and the question of the transferability of the lease is being researched. Karen Lauer did relay to Mr. Poppel that the Planning Commission is considering recommending to the City Council that the CUP for the salvage business be revoked. Mr. Poppel did admit to Karen Lauer that the fence has been down all summer until this time. Planning Commission members discussed the continual lack of compliance with the conditions of the CUP and wondered how many warnings need to be given before the CUP can be revoked. The City Attorney felt that the amount of time the fence has been down would meet the requirement for lack of maintenance of the fence. Per Planning Commission request, a letter will be sent to Mr. Poppel indicating the issue will be on the next Planning Commission agenda and staff will bring a draft finding of fact to the meeting.

**UPDATE ON UNFINISHED HOME NEAR CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE**

Karen Lauer reported that three days remain until the November 6 deadline for the owner to complete the exterior work on the home. Mike Brethorst will hold an administrative citation meeting and go forward with a \$100 per day citation if the work is not completed.

**GREEN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES**

Karen Lauer reported that information was put in with the most recent utility bills. The Minnesota Project has recently called to find out what the City is doing to go green. This is becoming an ever increasing subject of interest.

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER TERMS**

Karen Lauer noted that Gary Fraedrich started on the Planning commission in February 2002. Karen Lauer reviewed the timeline for replacing Gary Fraedrich as a Commission member. Ads were placed in the newspaper, the City newsletter, and the public access channel requesting that anyone interested in the open

position should submit a note of interest. The Planning Commission will interview the candidates at the December meeting. The Planning Commission will then make a recommendation to the City Council for the appointment of a new member whose term will begin in January 2009.

#### **DISCUSSION ON STONERIDGE ADDITION**

Karen Lauer noted that the EDA owns five lots abutting the trailer park in the Stoneridge Addition and has been trying to come up with ideas for the development of the lots. The intention of the previous owner of the lots was to build town homes but the developer had specified in the covenants that the addition is only for single family residences. The City has been trying to give the lots away but the specials are fairly high and are not attractive to potential home builders. Barnesville EDA has discussed the possibility of terminating the covenants and requesting that the area be rezoned to R-2. This rezoning would allow for the construction of town homes. The Planning Commission members discussed the options and expressed interest in rezoning the lots to R-2.

#### **HEARTLAND ADDITION UPDATE**

Karen Lauer reported that the Heartland Addition is just about totally built out. The developer is not real anxious to start another phase at this time due to the depressed economy and the necessity of including a retention pond in the next phase. The current phase includes R-3 zoned lots. The developer has indicated he may approach the Planning Commission in 2009 with a request to rezone a portion of the R-3 to R-1. The intent would be to create some larger lots for single family residences.

#### **BLUE EAGLE LAKE PROJECT**

Karen Lauer noted that Roland Holm has been working on Blue Eagle Lake issues over the past few months. The holding area has filled up with sludge and there are issues with the aeration system and the diffusers. Mr. Holm has been working with consultants and is hoping the City will purchase four diffusers that can be installed before winter so the results can be evaluated next spring. The DNR is going to do test netting in the spring of 2009 and will start restocking the lake with various varieties of fish.

#### **BUILDING PERMIT LIST**

Buildings permits for October 2008 were reviewed.

#### **LMC – CUP’S AND VARIANCES**

Karen Lauer briefly reviewed information from the League of Minnesota Cities on Conditional Use Permits and Variances. The information is intended as a resource for Commission members.

#### **TEMPORARY STRUCTURES**

Karen Lauer noted she had received a request to put up a temporary structure in a residential area for the winter. The structure has a metal frame covered by a tarp with a zippered front. This particular structure will be used to store a classic vehicle. Karen noted she had reviewed the City’s ordinances and could find no reason to deny the request so she gave approval to the request. Planning Commission members discussed the topic of temporary structures and felt a definition of a temporary structure should be developed.

The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday, December 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

**11-03-08-03** Motion by Detloff and seconded by Mortenson to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Pat Berndt  
Planning Commission Secretary