

**Barnesville Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 5, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Barnesville Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Jeremy Krause at 6:42 p.m.

Members present: Merlin Strom, Steve Mortenson, Margaret Follingstad, Mike Osten, Jeremy Krause, Pat Berndt, and Karen Lauer, Acting Zoning Administrator.

Members absent: Gary Fraedrich, and Jacob Gehrig.

Others present: Roland Holm, and Pam Aakre of the Record-Review.

Karen Lauer administered the Oath of Office for Pat Berndt and Margaret Follingstad.

**AGENDA**

**2-5-07-01** Motion by Osten and seconded by Mortenson to approve the agenda. Unanimously carried.

**MINUTES**

**2-5-07-02** Motion by Strom and seconded by Mortenson to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2007 meeting. Unanimously carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION ON CHANGES TO P-ZONE**

Karen Lauer reviewed the information from the City Attorney on proposed language for the P-Zone. Attorney John Shockley recommends that language be added to Subd. 3 Project Review. The proposed language would give commission members criteria to review proposed development within the Public Facilities Zone. If the proposal does not meet requirements, this language would allow the Planning Commission to request changes. The language gives latitude to the Commission.

**2-5-07-03** Motion by Strom and seconded by Osten to call for a public hearing on March 5 on the proposed amendment to Public Facilities District, Subd. 3 Project Review items A-F with possible additional language to add items that incorporate other issues that may not be specifically addressed. Unanimously carried.

**POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE**

**•Non-Conforming Structure Section:** Karen Lauer reviewed with the Planning Commission the proposed language that would bring the ordinance in compliance with state statute changes.

**2-5-07-04** Motion by Strom and seconded by Mortenson to call for a public hearing on March 5 on the proposed amendment to Section 11-03, Subd. 4.B of the Barnesville City Code relating to Nonconforming Structures; and Section 11.70, Subd. 11.E relating to Nonconforming Uses in the Flood Plain Management District. Unanimously carried.

**•Parking of Recreational Vehicles:** Jeremy Krause noted that complaints from the public have been received regarding the number of vehicles or fish houses placed in yards. Karen Lauer reviewed the history of the language changes that were made. She did note that the minutes and city records are not clear or detailed. The Commission discussed Subd. 6.B and noted that recreational equipment is not defined and the verbiage “may be parked” needs clarification. Commission members discussed the possibility of requiring vehicles or fish houses to be screened from view, but the height limitation of fences would limit the effectiveness of this option. One member questioned if the ordinance could require that vehicles need to be stored within the setback limitations. Karen Lauer noted that setbacks are only for structures. Commission

members also discussed the possibility of setting guidelines for the number of items related to the necessity to screen the items. Questions were raised regarding the enforcement of such regulations. Karen Lauer noted that if the City receives a call and someone is breaking an ordinance, the city staff will enforce the ordinance. One concern was raised regarding how much the city can restrict residents. Following extensive discussion the Commission members proposed the following language for Subd.6.B. Utility trailers, licensed recreational equipment on trailers, and travel trailers may only be parked on concrete or asphalt residential driveways or existing gravel driveways. Karen Lauer will request that City Attorney Shockley review the proposed language.

**2-5-7-05** Motion by Strom and seconded by Berndt to hold a public hearing on March 5, 2007 on the proposed language for Subd.6.B. Unanimously carried.

**•C-2 Parking Regulations:** Jeremy Krause noted that a semi-tractor must have the trailer attached while parked in C-2 locations and off-street parking is only allowed in C-2. Currently, semi-tractors may be parked in a residential driveway during the winter when they need to be plugged in. Commission members discussed possible options to resolve the discrepancy between the two regulations. Possible language change would be to say that trailers may be dollied-down for a period not to exceed seventy-two hours in a C-2 Zone.

**2-5-7-06** Motion by Mortenson and seconded by Strom to hold a public hearing on March 5, 2007 on the proposed language to allow a trailer to be dollied-down for a period not to exceed seventy-two hours in a C-2 Zone. Unanimously carried.

**•Other Changes For Discussion:** Karen Lauer presented Planning Commission members with an updated copy of Chapter 11 Zoning Ordinance. She noted that on page 518, Subd. 8. the reference to Motion Signs should be Electronic Sign as defined on page 517.

**2-5-7-07** Motion by Osten and seconded by Mortenson to hold a public hearing on March 5, 2007 on the change in Subd. 8. from Motion Signs to Electronic Signs. Unanimously carried.

Karen Lauer noted that the definition on page 452 of #63 “Yard, Side” is not clear. Commission members discussed the wording and asked that staff research possible language changes and bring it back to the Commission at a future meeting.

## **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ACTION STEPS**

The Planning Commission briefly discussed the goals and objectives listed in the Comprehensive Plan. It was noted that one of the objectives is to work with the Joint Powers Board on zoning issues. There was not a joint meeting held in 2006. Discussion included:

- Page 45 Objective 1.1 deals with 13<sup>th</sup> St SE and that the City Council has not addressed this objective. It was noted that the EDA is talking about 13<sup>th</sup> St SE. Also one land owner attended a Township meeting with a City Council member to discuss the maintenance of the road.
- Page 52 Objective 7.1 A task force has not been formed to discuss a Community Center.
- Page 58-9 Objective 2.2 Reed Field – City Council is reluctant to give funds but it is an important part of the recreational infrastructure in Barnesville.
- Page 66 Emergency Services: The Fire Department did get a new unit. The ambulance service has added a part-time paramedic but they are not meeting the growth in staff mentioned in the objective.

Karen Lauer noted that a joint meeting with the School Board, the EDA, and the City Council was held. At the meeting, the goals were reviewed. The Community Center was discussed but no action was taken. Also discussed was the possibility of Community Education working closer with Parks and Recs so everyone is on the same page and the needs of citizens can be addressed. It was noted that these two groups should meet before spring and make a list of things that need to be addressed. Also noted was that Reed Field is used by about 400 local children and by about 800 children over-all. It is estimated that 180 adults also use Reed Field.

## **BUILDING PERMIT LIST – Not Available**

## **OTHER ZONING CONCERNS – GROUP WORK CAMP**

Karen Lauer noted that the work camp project has received sixteen to eighteen applications from Barnesville and about fifty applications overall. Roland Holm worked on getting applications completed.

Roland Holm reported that he has been notified that three houses are scheduled to be demolished this summer.

Karen Lauer reported she has submitted a Small Cities Grant for work in a six block area that includes fifteen homes and ten additional buildings downtown. Karen also noted that there is a need for a manufactured home park. There has been interest since most developments prohibit manufactured homes. There is some research being done on this issue.

The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday March 5, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

**02-05-07-08** Motion by Strom and seconded by Osten to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Pat Berndt  
Planning Commission Secretary