

**Barnesville Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 3, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Barnesville Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Merlin Strom at 6:45 p.m.

Members present: Steve Mortensen, Mike Detloff, Merlin Strom, Paul Karsnia, Nathan Gemar, Margaret Follingstad and Brent Berg. Absent: None.

Others present: Mike Rietz, City Attorney John Shockley, Karen Lauer, John Thompson, Steve Thompson and Pam Aakre of the Barnesville Record-Review.

AGENDA

1-3-12-01 Motion by Detloff and seconded by Berg to approve the agenda with one change, moving the discussion of the floodplain management ordinance ahead of the comprehensive plan update on the agenda. Unanimously carried.

MINUTES

1-3-12-02 Motion by Follingstad and seconded by Karsnia to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2011 meeting. Unanimously carried.

WHISKEY CREEK FARMS POTATO WAREHOUSE

Mike Rietz reported that the Property Maintenance Task Force has cited Whiskey Creek Farms for failure to repair their building at the end of 2nd Ave on the west side of the railroad tracks. The required repairs are the replacement of the shingles and painting the building. Whiskey Creek Farms has argued that since the building is agricultural, it is not subject to the building code, and therefore, they do not have to repair it according to the building code. Upon further review of state statutes, the City Attorney found a very narrow exception that makes this an agricultural building. Therefore, Whiskey Creek Farms is not required to remove the shingles to make the necessary repairs to satisfy the city's property maintenance code. They would like to apply a coating over the shingles to restore their functionality and improve their appearance.

1-3-12-03 Motion by Detloff, seconded by Berg to recommend to the City Council that applying a coating over the existing shingles and painting the sides was sufficient to meet the requirements of the Property Maintenance code and that the required repairs shall be completed by November 1, 2012 or the current fines be assessed to the property taxes. Unanimously carried.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

Mike Rietz reported that he worked with City Attorney Shockley on the areas where there were questions from the previous month and answered the questions related to the optional language in the proposed ordinance.

1-3-12-04 Motion by Follingstad, seconded by Gemar to recommend to the City Council approval of the Floodplain Management Ordinance as presented. Unanimously carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

The Board discussed what they have reviewed to this point. They identified the update of the Joint Powers Comprehensive Plan as a major initiative to undertake in the coming year as a way to further one of the strategic initiatives under Goal #1. The Board will consider other initiatives to work on throughout the year.

BUILDING PERMIT LIST

The building permits for December were reviewed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1-3-12-05 Motion by Follingstad, seconded by Berg to elect Mike Detloff Planning Commission Chair and Steve Mortensen as Vice-chair. Unanimously carried.

1-3-12-06 Motion by Detloff, seconded by Mortensen to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Michael Rietz

City Administrator