

Royalton Township Working Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006
Email: royalton@royaltontownship.com -- Website: www.royaltontownship.com
9 February 2021
Approved

6:30 p.m., 9 February 2021, Chair Leslie Orvis convened the Royalton Township working planning commission meeting with members Jeff Schlaeger, Priscilla Schneider, and Duane Swanson present, and Gary Valvoda absent. Supervisor Wayne Olson and Zoning Administrator John Kemen also attended. Social distancing was observed and masks were worn.

Clerk Swanson distributed copies of a letter from unnamed "concerned citizens" with a list of questions regarding the proposed solar energy zoning ordinance. The commission reviewed each point. Members reiterated the need for an ordinance to ensure that systems were properly installed, confirmed that the proposed ordinance was not meant to discourage use of solar energy, noted that the township building inspector would be the one issuing permits, and reinforced the distinction between personal use/occasional buyback installations and those intended for commercial sale. After substantial discussion on square footage or percentage of parcel limitations, the commission concluded to leave the draft wording in place.

Zoning Administrator Kemen will discuss the proposed Pangerl land split with the applicant's counsel to confirm that the split had already been approved and that all that was needed is a second property identification number for the second parcel. That issue is not one that the township needs to be involved in.

The commission reviewed in detail the proposed wording of a resolution establishing a policy for handling proposed land splits and recommended no changes. Formal recommendation will be on the commission's 23 February regular meeting agenda.

An initial discussion was held about issues relating to burning of toxic materials.

Members discussed recommendations for the board regarding the 2021 (pay 2022) levy. While all appeared to be in agreement to keep the same levy amount, there appeared to be consensus to add an equipment fund within the \$219,000 levy to ensure that monies can be set aside for future major equipment purchases. Various amounts were suggested, and no conclusions were made.

At 7:50 p.m., the meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Leslie Orvis, Chair/Member

Jeff Schlaeger, Member

Priscilla Schneider, Member

Gary Valvoda, Member