

Royalton Township Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006
Email: royalton@royaltontownship.com-- Website: www.royaltontownship.com
29 July 2025
Approved

7:00 p.m., 29 July 2025, Chair Jeff Schlaeger called the Royalton Township regular planning commission meeting to order with Members Pete Belland, John Graham, Treasurer Jenessa Saumer and Clerk Duane Swanson present. Zoning Administrator John Kemen, Septic Administrator Amy Thompson, Road Superintendent Dan Saumer, Deputy Clerk Andrea Anderson, Building Official Caleb Christenson, and members of the public also attended.

Member Graham moved, Member Belland seconded, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Maple Shores sign. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Graham moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to approve the minutes of the 24 June 2025 regular commission meeting as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Schlaeger moved, Member Graham seconded, to approve the minutes of the working meeting of 15 July 2025 as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Members briefly discussed ordinance updates, noting that Couri & Ruppe Attorney Mark Allseits had prepared four ordinance documents in May removing references to cannabis but retaining the other potential updates. Chair Schlaeger asked commission members to study these documents prior to the next working meeting. Members understood that all references to the proposed new zoning district needed to be removed and that potential updates suggested by Administrators Thompson and Kemen needed to be codified into the new ordinance. Chair Schlaeger remarked, and members endorsed, that the need for updates to the ordinance should have high priority.

Members briefly discussed the proposed camera security policy that had been distributed at the June meeting. No suggested updates were given. Clerk Swanson moved, Member Graham seconded, to recommend the policy to the board with the further recommendation that the draft be forwarded to legal counsel for review. The motion carried unanimously.

Members reviewed the variance application of Paul Beseman (8827 Maple Shores Drive, PID 295075000) for relief from the setback requirements of the town's septic ordinance. The configuration of the lot size, the existing structures on it, and the placement of the existing septic system combine to make it impossible for the setbacks to be met. Members reviewed the draft explanation of, and justification for, the variance. Administrators Thompson and Kemen endorsed the draft statement dated 29 July 2025. Clerk Swanson moved, Member Belland seconded, to recommend to the board to grant the variance, noting that the unique characteristics of the lot justify it and that it does not set a precedent for future variance requests. The motion carried unanimously.

Members reviewed the issue of junk at PID 295098000 (5583 Royal River Road). Member Graham noted that his review of the property indicated that substantial progress had been made at this property, except for the presence of a travel trailer. By consensus, the commission decided to defer further action at this time.

PB ____ JG ____ JMS ____ JS ____ DPS ____

Commission members deferred any discussion on reconstitution of the planning commission membership to the board of supervisors.

New Business:

Paul Wilkens, representing residents of Maple Shores Drive, presented a drawing of a proposed community sign that would replace the existing deteriorated one. This four-foot by five-foot sign would be more than thirty feet off the road right-of-way and would be erected in the same location. Mr. Wilkens also presented the township with a copy of the sign initialed by the residents indicating their approval. Member Graham moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to recommend approval to the board. The motion carried unanimously.

The next working commission meeting was set for 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, 12 August 2025.

FYI:

The next regular planning commission meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 26 August 2025.

At 7:17 p.m., Member Belland moved, Member Graham seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk/Member

Pete Belland, Supervisor/Member

John Graham, Supervisor/Member

Jenessa Saumer, Treasurer/Member

Jeff Schlaeger, Chair/Member