

Royalton Township Public Hearing Minutes
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006
Email: royalton@royaltontownship.com -- Website: www.royaltontownshipmn.gov
30 June 2026
Approved

6:02 p.m., 30 June 2026, Chair Jeff Schlaeger called to order the duly posted and published hearing of the Royalton Township planning commission. Planning commission members present: Pete Belland, Barb Dreyer, Jan Patterson, and Clerk Duane Swanson; Septic Administrator Amy Thompson also attended. Approximately twenty-five members of the public were in attendance. Chair Schlaeger led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Schlaeger declared the purpose of the hearing: To seek public testimony on an application of Adam and Anne Jenkauski for an interim use permit to operate a campsite for tenters and small RV/travel trailers that are less than thirty (30) feet at 5271 Royal River Road, Braham, MN 55006 (PID 295110000). He announced the rules for the hearing as printed in the agenda.

Mr. Jenkauski summarized his application noting that he owns one lot on Royal River Road with a cabin and an adjacent vacant lot. He proposes to establish a campsite on the vacant lot. He has installed a holding tank under the outhouse on the vacant lot that complies with township and state regulations. He had attended meetings with the planning commission to explain the rules of the campsite; he reported his discussions with Pine County zoning officials on use of that portion of the lot that falls within the Shoreland district.

Chair Schlaeger asked for public comment: Danielle Kenmir noted that she lives next door and expressed the need for a privacy fence in addition to the existing trees. She asked who would enforce the rules when the owners were not there. Jody Kahlow expressed concern about maintenance of the road in front of the property, noting that no governmental jurisdiction or private organization is responsible for its maintenance. [Xxxxxx] asked if the police had ever been called to the property. Derrick Johnson expressed concern for the safety of children with numerous visitors using the campsite and the private road that accesses it. Denise Weis expressed sadness for "what is going on" and recommended that a living fence should be required as has been mandated for other interim use permits. Mrs. Weis also recommended a periodic review of the operation of the site.

At 6:12 p.m., Zoning Administrator John Kemen assumed the chair and conducted the remainder of the hearing. Public comment continued: Sam Twitchell, who has a right of first refusal on the cabin parcel, noted that a 1981 plat established Royal River Road but that no one owns it, that it is not currently being maintained, and that a washout limits through traffic on it. Anne Jenkauski reported that financial necessities encouraged them to develop a campsite, that people who have used the site have loved it, that the owners have encouraged enlargement of vegetative buffer areas from the neighboring parcels, and that the owners have heard no complaints about the site. She continued that the operation of a campsite is a separate issue from the road. Audience and commission members continued to ask operational questions to which Ms. Jenkauski replied that no vehicles will be beyond the designated parking areas, that no vehicles will be permitted on the trail, that only one group will be allowed to rent at one time, and that only one two-foot by three-foot sign will be allowed. The Kenmirs shared a photo from their deck showing gaps in the

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natural vegetation. Derrick Johnson feared a campsite would change the residential nature of the neighborhood.

Administrator Kemen asked for other comments. When none was offered, he closed public comment. Clerk Swanson noted that four individuals have submitted written comments via email, all opposed granting the application; he read each submission into the record. He also reported that two individuals had submitted oral comments to Administrator Kemen, both supporting the application and one oral comment to Clerk Swanson opposed the application.

Administrator Kemen then led a discussion through the draft findings of fact. Planning Commission members received paper copies of the draft, which was also shared with the audience via the television screen. Discussion centered on the possible prohibition of use during the winter (the road may not plowed at times), recognition that use of the existing dock on the cabin parcel (not on the campsite parcel) would continue, that jet-skis may not be used on the campsite parcel, and that attempts to create a more solid natural buffer will continue with the planting of more evergreens and the removal of buckthorn.

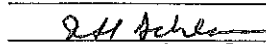
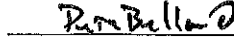
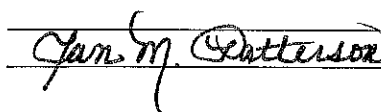
Administrator Kemen explained that the next step would be for the planning commission to discuss the comments made at the public hearing and make a recommendation to the board. The board then would make a final determination on the application. Administrator Kemen asked for any additional comments; none was offered.

At 6:55 p.m., Member Belland moved, Chair Schlaeger seconded, to adjourn the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

ATTEST:

_____	, John Kemen, Zoning Administrator
	, Jeff Schlaeger, Chair/Member
	, Pete Belland, Member
_____	, Barb Dreyer, Member
	, Jan Patterson, Member