

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, October 31, 2011

Administrative Center – Room 3220

3:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Meyer, Don Bina, Bob Keil, Beverly Mach, Dennis Manthei (3:45 p.m.), Marilyn Pedretti, Tina Wehrs (3:35 p.m.)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marlane Anderson

STAFF & GUESTS: Bryan Meyer, Gregg Stangl, Steve O'Malley, Charlie Handy, Margaret Norden, Nate Sampson, Maureen Freedland, Cheryl McBride, Dan Ferries, Dave Lange, Glen Jenkins, Rich Kastenschmidt, Karen Ringstrom, Nathan Franklin, Keith Carson, Mary Niemeyer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 3, 2011

MOTION by Keil/Pedretti to approve the minutes of October 3, 2011. **Motion carried unanimously.** Manthei, Wehrs excused; Anderson absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested under the agenda item.

SUPERVISOR CONFERENCE REPORTS

Supervisor Pedretti congratulated Mary Meehan-Strub for receiving the Chancellor's Award for Excellence for her work in financial management for families.

CONSENT AGENDA

The item was referred to the November 28, 2011, meeting.

FRAC SAND PRESENTATION

Steve O'Malley stated that the presentation was referred to the full County Board Policy Planning meeting in December, 2011, with follow-up reports from the Highway Commissioner about the impact on roads, and from Planning staff about issues they will have to deal with regarding frac sand mining. Supervisor Bina noted that the Towns Association will have Karl Green's presentation on their agenda.

APPROVE A FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR NORMAN SPRAIN, TOWN OF BARRE, AND BILL BREWER/JANE ESSER, TOWN OF BURNS

Gregg Stangl reported that to be eligible for a Farmland Preservation Program tax credit, farmers must meet certain criteria, including being current on property taxes and compliant with state soil and water conservation standards. He reported that Bill Brewer/Jane Esser have met the standards. Stangl recommended approval. He referred another application from Norman Sprain to a future meeting, pending completion of the application. **MOTION** by Bina/Keil to approve the Farmland Preservation Program Certificate of Compliance for Bill Brewer/Jane Esser, Town of Burns. **Motion carried unanimously.** Manthei excused; Anderson absent.

DISCUSS SIGN ORDINANCE REVISIONS – SET DATES FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Chair Meyer asked for comments on the revised ordinance, and public comment was received as follows:

- Keith Carson, Olympus Media, spoke about reducing the minimum setback in agricultural lands, which would preclude any signs placed along I-90. Charlie Handy

responded that the RPA definition could be changed if the committee decided so that agricultural land was excluded along I-90.

- Maureen Freedland spoke about existing homes and future developments that deserve to be protected, and need the setback, and stated she would prefer to wait for the public hearing to make any changes.
- Glen Jenkins reminded committee members that of residents who were sent the comprehensive plan survey, 84% of respondents said they do not want new billboards, and do want strict regulations. He stated that people who responded are business owners and frequenters who are not anti-business, but want to preserve the natural beauty of the area.
- Dan Ferries clarified that new signs are not being proposed, and the ordinance addresses digital conversions.

David Lange listed the following policy issues to be addressed:

1. The definition of "sensitive areas" such as scenic byways.
2. Distance from residential, public facility, and institutional zoning districts.
3. Distance between message units.
4. Maximum height.

Lengthy discussion was held to clarify previous discussions and point out proofreading changes. Charlie Handy stated he will email a draft to members and focus on changes to date prior to the public hearing. Further discussion was held about consistency in language regarding maximum height and distance. Handy provided clarification of maximum height where a sign is located on a slope. Consensus of the committee was to cap all signs at 50 feet above the center line. The following motions were made on the proposed ordinance and the public hearing:

MOTION by Wehrs/Bina to delete agriculture, and replace with residential and public institutional adjacent to an interstate highway in Section 33.07(2)(i)1.h. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION by Pedretti/Mach to delete "on the same parcel of land" in Section 33.08(1)(b)4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION by Wehrs/Keil to hold the public hearing on December 12, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2012 BUDGET REVIEW FOR THOSE DEPARTMENTS REPORTING TO PLANNING, RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Steve O'Malley reviewed the following department budgets:

- Register of Deeds: O'Malley explained that the drop in revenue was because the 2011 revenue amount was an estimate, and was offset by Social Security redaction actual expense.
- Land Conservation: State aid project revenue is all offset by project expense, so there was actually a drop in revenue, which is being offset by some fund balance.
- UW Extension: There was a decrease in health insurance, and some retirement savings, but otherwise no change.
- WNEP: There was no significant change.
- Zoning: The position that was funded in 2011, but remained open, is now to be filled; the 2011 funds are being carried forward to be able to hold the line on levy.
- Historic Sites: There is no change proposed. The Commission is requesting to carry forward their unused printing and grant funds.
- Non-departmental: No change.
- Metropolitan Planning Organization: It is primarily funded by state aid, plus assessment back to municipalities, so has no County levy impact.
- LAPC revenue: They are using fund balance to manage the balance.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None suggested.

RECESS

MOTION by Keil/Manthei to recess until the 6:00 p.m. public hearing. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting recessed at 5:35 p.m.

Approved, November 28, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder