

**MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE
JANUARY 25, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the White Bear Lake Planning Commission was called to order on Monday, January 25, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. via WebEx, pursuant to a statement issued by the Mayor under Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, by Chair Ken Baltzer.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Amundsen, Ken Baltzer, Jim Berry, Pamela Enz, Mark Lynch, and Erich Reinhardt.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Peter Reis.

MEMBERS UNEXCUSED: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Anne Kane, Community Development Director, Samantha Crosby, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, and Ashton Miller, Planning Technician.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan & Molly Guidinger.

2. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 25, 2021 AGENDA:

Member Lynch moved for approval of the agenda. Member Enz seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved (6-0).

3. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 30, 2020 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:

Member Amundsen moved for approval of the minutes. Member Enz seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved (6-0).

4. CASE ITEMS:

A. **Case No. 21-1-V:** A request by **Dan & Molly Guidinger** for a 17.5 foot variance from the 20.5 foot setback required along a side abutting a public right-of-way, per Code Section 1302.030, Subd.20.b.2.d, in order to install a six person hot tub three feet from the north property line at the property located at 4955 Johnson Avenue.

Crosby discussed the case. Staff recommended approval subject to the conditions listed in the report.

Member Lynch asked if the variance applied only to the proposed hot tub and not future structures. Crosby confirmed, stating that any future projects would need to come before the Planning Commission.

Member Baltzer opened the public hearing.

Dan Guidinger, 4955 Johnson Avenue, Applicant, stated that he has spoken to surrounding neighbors and they are supportive of the request.

Member Baltzer closed the public hearing.

Member Enz commented that she did not believe the hot tub would be obstructive in any way.

Member Amundsen stated that there is no other viable location for the hot tub. He expressed his support for the request since the neighbor across the street approved the project.

Member Enz moved to recommend approval of Case No. 21-1-V. Member Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Chair & Vice Chair Elections.

Member Enz nominated Member Baltzer for his second consecutive year as chair of the Planning Commission, seconded by Member Lynch. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0. Member Reinhardt nominated Member Lynch for his second consecutive year as vice chair, seconded by Member Enz. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

B. City Council Meeting Summary of January 12, 2021.

Member Berry noted that the City Council did not support the Planning Commission recommendation of a paved trail in the Blustone Villa plat. Kane explained that the decision was based on a combination of objections from the developer and a lack of support from immediate neighbors.

Kane informed the Commissioners that progress is being made on the South Shore Boulevard trail. After working with the County and White Bear Township, a portion of South Shore Boulevard will be converted to a one-way for trail expansion.

Kane also reported that the Metropolitan Council has reviewed the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which will come before the Planning Commission after some recommended minor changes are made.

C. Park Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2021.

No Discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Member Amundsen moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Lynch. The motion passed unanimously (6-0), and the January 25, 2021 Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.