

**Planning Commission Meeting  
May 30, 2019  
7:00 PM**

**Call to Order:**

Chair Ross called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Katy Ross, Commissioners Mark Azman, Stig Hauge, Nancy Reid, Kara Ries, Sara Shah, and Joyce Yoshimura-Rank.

Staff: City Administrator Mike Robertson, Recording Secretary Gretchen Needham, City Planner Bob Kirmis, and Sanitary Inspector Brian Humpal

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**Approval of Agenda:**

**Commissioner Reid moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Yoshimura-Rank seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Commissioner Ries asked that the comments she had made at the April 25 Planning Commission meeting be added back into the official minutes. Commissioner Hauge moved to approve the amended April 25, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Shah seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Commissioner Ries moved to approve the April 10, 2019 workshop minutes. Commissioner Azman seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Consider Variance 19-03 – ISTS, 30 Feet into the Required 30-foot Setback at 1 Wishbone Lane**  
Sanitary Inspector Humpal said this lot has not been built upon yet and the area available for installation of an ISTS is limited due to adjacent roads, property setbacks, impervious areas, the well, slopes, and wetlands. A previous application for a variance was granted in 2013. Since the time frame to do the work has lapsed, the applicant needed to reapply for the variance. Humpal said staff recommends granting the variance as there is no other area for the septic to be constructed. City Planner Kirmis recommended that findings be included in the report. **Commissioner Hauge moved to approve Variance 19-03 with the conditions that the work be completed by January 1, 2020, and that the system be located per the design dated April 23, 2019 by Ashley Krause. Commissioner Azman seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Chair Ross abstained from voting.**

**Consideration of Variance 19-04- ISTS 98 West Pleasant Lake Road**

The applicant requested this item be tabled.

**Commissioner Shah moved to table the application. Commissioner Yoshimura-Rank seconded. Motion approved unanimously.**

Sanitary Inspector Humpal gave an overview of types of septic systems.

- Type I is a drain field/trench system, which is considered a standard system. This system is the most common found in North Oaks, and maintenance is performed every two years.
- Type II is designed for a flood plain.
- Type III is a mound or drain field/trench system that may have a very wet soil profile.
- Type IV uses a recirculating filter to remove waste; this is ideal for closer situation to a well or water source. The service interval for this system will be 6 months to a year.
- A multiflow system requires an air pump and other technologies to treat the waste; the maintenance on this system will be determined by the installer.

For all types of systems, Inspector Humpal does not suggest adding additives.

### **Discussion of Cesspools**

Commissioner Ries asked Septic Inspector Humpal about cesspools. He said these are older systems which are open bottom ISTS tanks. There is no treatment of the waste and as they are typically deep systems that may touch the water table they are potentially a pollution risk. They can no longer be constructed under state law. An existing cesspool is allowed until it is deemed an eminent health risk or the system fails a compliance test.

### **2040 Comprehensive Plan Update**

Commissioner Reid attended a Washington County district meeting and learned that resiliency is a topic often addressed in cities' comprehensive plans because of increased stormwater the difficulty of current infrastructure to accommodate increased precipitation amounts.

Commissioner Reid provided information which staff used to put together a section for the 2040 Comp Plan to address this concern. Planner Kirmis added a section to the Comp Plan about solar resources to meet the Met Council requirements which the City Engineer added a section from the City's stormwater plan.

The Commission asked that the City Engineer update the sewage tables based on the revised housing counts. Commissioner Ries asked staff to check if the Met Council had sewage REC's for individual properties.

Franny Skamser Lewis, 3 Red Maple Lane, gave a definition of climate resiliency: "absorb stresses and maintain function in the face of external stresses imposed upon it by climate change and adapt, reorganize, and evolve into more desirable configurations that improve the sustainability of the system, leaving it better prepared for future climate change impacts." JoAnn Hanson, Treasurer of NOHOA Board of Directors, 5 Sumac Lane, explained why specific details about the trail off Nord were removed from page 83 of the Comp Plan. Rich Dujmovic, 15 Black Lake Road had a concern about the housing count numbers.

The Comp Plan edits were reviewed and an updated version will be ready for City Council's June meeting. Count numbers in many tables need to be vetted further.

**Commissioner Yoshimura-Rank moved to approve the 2040 Comp Plan for City Council's review with a notation that count numbers in many tables still need to be vetted.**

**Commissioner Ries seconded. The motion passed with Commissioners Hauge, Reid, Ries, Shah and Yoshimura-Rank voting yea. Chair Ross and Commissioner Azman abstained from voting.**

**City Update:**

- North Oaks Recycling and Shredding Event is Saturday, June 22.
- A tour of Eureka Recycling is being scheduled for June 19 at 2 p.m.
- NOHOA's Summer Fest is Sunday, June 2.
- Another round of locking mailboxes will be ordered in August of this year.
- North Oaks was awarded the City of Excellence Award for the work of the Tick Task Force.
- Commissioner Ries is going to send a draft of a process of review checklist to Administrator Robertson for use in future developments.

**Next Planning Commission Meeting: Thursday, June 27, 2019**

**Adjournment:**

**Commissioner Reid made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Azman seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 9:58 pm.**