

Empire Township Planning Commission Minutes

April 5, 2022

The Empire Township Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Tom Kaldunski at 8:00 PM.

Present were: Tom Kaldunski, Trent Larson, Doug Clark, Marla Vagts, Jane Kansier, Brad Fisher, Charles Seipel-Teng, and liaison Jamie Elvestad. Jared Sachs was absent.

Brittany Danielson, property owner at 21690 Blaine Ave., was present to discuss concerns about business activities taking place on the property. The Planning Commission indicated that there were concerns with employees coming to the property in the morning because of a business being operated at the property. Mrs. Danielson indicated that the workers were not employees of the HVAC business that is operated at the property but were there to pick up their work vehicles. All business activities on the property take place in enclosed structures. The Planning Commission indicated that the workers are considered employees. Family members associated with the business being on the property is ok, but the property owner still needs to apply for a home occupation permit to run the business from the home and abide by the home occupation guidelines in the Zoning Ordinance.

The Planning Commission reviewed Ordinance No. 275 relating to mobile food units. There have been a few issues with the required vehicle height and length from mobile food units that are interested in participating in the proposed food truck night to be hosted by the Empire and Farmington Park & Rec. Committees. After some discussion, it was recommended that the Planning Commission consider amending the ordinance to permit mobile food units up to 13' 6" in height and 34' in length.

Tom Kaldunski made a motion to set a public hearing on the proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 275 for the Tuesday, May 3rd Planning Commission Meeting. Trent Larson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

It was reported that the filing for the incorporation of Empire Township was submitted to the State of Minnesota by the Township attorney today. It is still likely that a hearing on incorporation will be set for some time in June.

Brad Fisher indicated that he needs to meet with County Highway Department staff to discuss possible future realignment of Highway 66 at Biscayne Ave. The County has indicated that they still have plans for a future realignment at this intersection.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.