

Minutes
of the
NORTH MANKATO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
North Mankato, Minnesota
August 20, 2020

A regular meeting of the North Mankato Planning Commission was held at 7 p.m., August 20, 2020, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. City Administrator Harrenstein on March 31, 2020, under MN Statute Section 13D.021, declared the use of electronic meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following were present remotely through Zoom for roll call: Chair Stephanie Stoffel, Commissioners Nick Meyer, Jason Ceminsky, Grant Poehler, Randy King; Council Representative Sandra Oachs, City Attorney Chris Kennedy and Community Development Director Mike Fischer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meyer, seconded by Commissioner King, to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2020, regular meeting of the North Mankato Planning Commission. Vote on the motion: all ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

Final Plat of The Waters North, a request from Prairie Development, LLC

Staff indicated that the subdivision, which was previously called Prairie Heights, was renamed to The Waters North because of another Prairie Heights subdivision recorded in Nicollet County. Staff then described the final plat, which includes 47 residential lots for single-family development and the addition of several new streets, as well as outlots both for stormwater retention and for future development. Staff then explained the utility easements and conservation easements on the final plat. Staff indicated that they will be conducting research on the use of administrative lot splits and present findings at the September Planning Commission meeting. Commissioners discussed the final plat, including the proposed conservation easement which is intended to help preserve the integrity of the ravines. A motion was made by Commissioner Poehler, seconded by Commissioner Ceminsky, to approve the final plat of The Waters North. Vote on the motion: all ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

Review Comprehensive Plan: Parks & Trails Chapter

Staff recognized Matt Lassonde from Bolton & Menk to present the draft Parks & Trails Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. Lassonde summarized that chapter including the changes made to the chapter since its first adoption including the goals and objectives. Lassonde also informed the Commission about development of the City's trails system. Commissioners discussed the concept of utilizing ravine land as community "greenspace," and the establishment of trails within them. The Commission held discussions of the use of conservation easements in the future, indoor recreation opportunities and locations of future parks as set forth in the plan. A motion was made by Commissioner King, seconded by Commissioner Meyer, to accept the Parks & Trails Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. Vote on the motion: all ayes, 0 nays; motion carried.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Meyer, seconded by Commissioner Ceminsky, to adjourn. Vote on the motion: all ayes, 0 nays; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary