

**Town of Bayfield  
Regular March Plan Commission Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2015 - 5:30 PM**

Meeting agenda was posted Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at 4:00 PM at the Bayfield Town Hall, the Highway Garage, the Star Route Garage, the Town website, and was submitted to the Ashland Daily Press.

Plan Commission members present were Steve Sandstrom, Karen Boutin, Jack Beagan, Demaris Brinton, Robert Meierotto, Fred Erickson and Clerk Kelly Faye. Nancy Bussey was excused. There was one member of the public present. Chairman Beagan called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**Reading and approval of minutes of Regular Plan Commission Meeting of February 9th, 2015:** A motion was made by Boutin, seconded by Sandstrom, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Discussion and identification of items for future agendas:** None.

**Communications and Correspondence:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Old Business**

**a. Results of the Special Electors Meeting requesting approval for the Town of Bayfield to purchase a 40-acre lot adjacent to the Business Park:** Chairman Beagan reported that the purchase of the lot was approved at the Special Electors Meeting and that final approval needs to come from the Town Board at their next meeting which is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Continuing discussion about promotion of the Business Park and establishment of an Economic Development Sub-Committee to address this issue as recommended by the Town Board:** Chairman Beagan reported that he, Sandstrom, and, Meierotto would form the sub-committee for the promotion of the Park. Additional community members were anticipated to join them in the effort. David Galazen suggested the west-side of the property could be used for homes, while the east-side for businesses. The possibility of Galazen joining the committee was proposed.

**c. Continuing discussion of proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan—Land Use and Economic Development; and update on proposal to address Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in Land Use Section:** At a previous meeting, discussion took place regarding the potential value of addressing large-scale agricultural operations, such as CAFOs, in the Town of Bayfield Comprehensive Plan. This issue has become a topic of local discussion in recent months due to the fact that a CAFO operation is interested in locating in the Town of Eileen. Bayfield County has elected to enact a moratorium on such operations until more information on any potential effects can be studied.

In order to determine how the Town should best address CAFOs the Plan document, Brinton was asked to look into the issue. In response to this request, Brinton reported she has recently gained a better understanding of the potential negative effects such an operation could cause and how these issues could be addressed by the Township. She noted that what she has learned confirms the Plan Commission's concerns that operations such as these could have negative effects to the natural environment, public health, and local small-scale farming. It was suggested that the Plan Commission may want to follow through with their intention to address CAFOs in the Town's Comprehensive Plan in the near future. Brinton proposed that in the meantime the Plan Commission could consider recommending that the Town Board send Bayfield County a resolution supporting the moratorium and encouraging them to carefully examine potential impacts on local communities where CAFOs operate. She asked if any members had any questions regarding her suggestion. Discussion took place regarding how this moratorium is not aiming to affect small farmers and the large scale of the proposed CAFO facility. Brinton provided the following draft resolution for Plan Commission members to consider:

## TOWN OF BAYFIELD

### RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Whereas, the Town of Bayfield ("Town") is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan and intends to address public concerns about the potential impacts of new large scale confined animal feeding operations ("CAFOs") on the Town's economy and quality of life, including concerns about potential negative impacts to public health and safety, existing agricultural operations, current land and property uses, tourism, other businesses, and the local and regional environment (land, air, and water);

Whereas, the Town is aware that Bayfield County ("County") enacted a Livestock Siting Ordinance to regulate new CAFOs;

Whereas, more recently, the County enacted a Moratorium on the acceptance of applications and the issuance of licenses for siting CAFOs, applicable to any CAFO that lacks vested rights, in order to provide additional time for the County to modify and strengthen its Livestock Siting Ordinance based on scientific grounds;

Whereas, the Town is aware of a proposed CAFO in the Town of Eileen and is concerned about potential adverse impacts of that proposal on the Town, County, and regional environment, because the proposed CAFO has applied for a license from the County but has not submitted a complete and credible Nutrient Management Plan ("NMP") or an approved Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("WPDES") Permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources with its application to the County; and

Whereas, the proposed CAFO in the Town of Eileen lacks vested rights because it has not submitted a complete and credible NMP or an approved WPDES Permit with its application for a license from the County.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Town supports the decision of the County to regulate CAFOs by enacting a Livestock Siting Ordinance and Moratorium.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Town urges the County to thoroughly review scientific information and develop additional CAFO siting and operational regulations to the full extent of its legal authority, to protect public health and safety, ensure sound land use and CAFO regulation, and protect the Town's economy and quality of life, including existing agricultural operations, current land uses and property values, tourism, other businesses, and the local and regional environment (land, air, and water).

Be It Further Resolved, that the Town encourages the County to apply the Moratorium to the proposed CAFO in the Town of Eileen, because the proposed CAFO has not submitted a complete and credible NMP or an approved WPDES Permit with its application for a license from the County and, therefore, lacks vested rights.

_____	Date_____
Town Chair	
_____	Date:_____
Town Supervisor	
_____	Date:_____
Town Supervisor	
_____	Date:_____
Town Clerk	

Discussion took place regarding the resolution draft. Beagan noted that it was well written. The floor was open to comments and suggestions. Members expressed support of the document and its contents. Sandstrom made a motion, seconded by Beagan, to recommend that the Town Board adopt the resolution. Motion carried.

**d. Committee Updates-**

**Jerry Jolly Trail Committee:** Chairman Beagan reported that the new committee will include Arnie Carver, Jim Moeller, and himself. He explained they will have to meet with Bayfield County Forestry Department to determine what will need to be done. He noted that summer and winter grooming needs will be different and that Ashwabay may need to be paid, possibly out of room tax funds, to carry out winter grooming.

**Orchard Kiosk/Sign Ordinance Compliance Committee:** Boutin noted that the first sign is being constructed and that there is nothing to more to report.

**Set date and time for next Regular Plan Commission meeting:** Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015-5:30 PM.

**Reminder of Special Plan Commission Meeting:** Comprehensive Plan Revision Working Session, Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 9:00 AM.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:56 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:  
Kelly N. Faye- Clerk