



**CITY OF LONG LAKE  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chair Crump.

Present: Committee Members Hultmann, Crump, Skjaret, Hughes and Loosen; Mayor Gilbert; City Administrator Post; Planning Consultant Perry.

Absent: None.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

*Commissioner Skjaret moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Hughes seconded. Ayes: all.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes of the August 11, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting**

*Commissioner Loosen moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Hughes seconded. Ayes: all.*

**OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Discuss Feedback from Council Regarding Possible Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

City Administrator Post reviewed the staff report for the Planning Commission. He reported that the Council had directed the Planning Commission to hold off on any ordinance revisions at this time until such time as any state legislation regarding variances is enacted. The Council urged the Commission to keep working on the green technologies-related ordinance modifications.

Chair Crump stated that the efforts of the Commission are appreciated but the Council wanted to ensure that the City did not get ahead of itself as the recent Minnesota Supreme Court ruling regarding the granting of variances that is still being evaluated. He advised

that it may be one year until further direction is known regarding that issue. He advised that most of the past variance issues could be dealt with within the City without creating problems for the businesses or landowners. He explained that sustainability issues could continue to be reviewed, such as shared driveways. He noted that once the League of Minnesota Cities and Attorney General reach an agreement on variances further direction regarding legislation may be known.

Mayor Gilbert provided an update and stated that he received correspondence that legislative changes concerning variances may occur by July 2011.

Planning Consultant Perry suggested that the Commission review language regarding wind turbines and other green technologies previously discussed.

Chair Crump confirmed that the Planning Commission would focus energy on those issues and would present their ideas and proposed language to Planning Consultant Perry once drafted.

Mayor Gilbert confirmed that the direction of the Council was to focus on green technologies and to hold off on general ordinance revisions until the decision regarding variances is made in the next year.

Commissioner Skjaret believed that the City seriously look at drafting a reforestation policy. He was concerned with trees older than 100 years old being removed and not being replaced. He noted that it could be a long process that could begin as a suggestion that trees removed be replaced.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Council Liaison Report**

Mayor Gilbert did not have anything further to report.

### **Commission Member Business**

Chair Crump commented that there are many other types of vegetation that could be used rather than no-mow grass to provide a more wild and natural looking space on the berm along Wayzata Boulevard on the east end of town.

Commissioner Loosen believed that the Planning Commission could have been involved in that project from a design review standpoint.

### **Staff Business**

City Administrator Post reported that the police RFP process had been completed and a similar process would begin for the City Attorney position. He advised that another RFP process could begin for engineering services during late fourth quarter.

Mayor Gilbert provided an update regarding the Orono comprehensive plan and the objection that the City of Long Lake had against the high density zoning proposed near the Long Lake Fire Station. He advised that the objection has been voiced and recorded regarding with the Metropolitan Council concerning the lack of water capacity should an emergency fire situation arise.

**ADJOURN**

*Commissioner Hultmann moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Skjaret seconded. Ayes: all.*

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Post  
City Administrator