

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Planning Commission conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2011, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:           Chairperson Gary Levine  
                                  Commissioner Randy Bauer  
                                  Commissioner Ralph Brauer  
                                  Commissioner Robert Schiller  
                                  Commissioner Gary Van Scoy

Members Absent:           Commissioner Andrew Dunaway  
                                  Commissioner Joseph Field

Also Present:               Senior Planner Tim Gladhill  
                                  Economic Development/Marketing Manager Aaron Backman  
                                  Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Levine called the regular meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Bauer, seconded by Commissioner Van Scoy, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Bauer, Van Scoy, Brauer, and Schiller. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Dunaway and Field.

**APPROVE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Van Scoy, seconded by Commissioner Schiller, to approve the following minutes as presented:

- 1) Planning Commission public hearing and regular meeting minutes dated May 5, 2011.
- 2) Planning Commission public hearing and regular meeting minutes dated May 19, 2011.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Bauer, Brauer, and Schiller. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Dunaway and Field.

## **NOTE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

The Council minutes were noted.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/COMMISSION BUSINESS**

**Case #1: Public Hearing – Consider Amendment to Chapter 117 of City Code Relating to Required Depth of Topsoil; Case of City of Ramsey**

### **Public Hearing**

Chairperson Levine called the public hearing to order at 7:14 p.m.

### **Presentation**

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the Staff Report.

### **Citizen Input**

None.

The public hearing closed at 7:16 p.m.

### **Commission Business**

Commissioner Bauer questioned why the change was made from 4 to 6 inches to begin with.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson explained the Council passed the change to go to 6 inches because adding two inches insured there was enough substance to retain water in response reducing the specification of topsoil required. Also, it was difficult to find the materials to make the mix for requiring only 4 inches under the current ordinance.

Commissioner Van Scoy suggested the action seems counterintuitive. He questioned whether there was data to support the theory that water retention would increase.

City Engineer Himmer explained staff prepared an original mix of topsoil originally to help with water retention, since that was a large issue to address in the area. This did seem to help. However this ordinance is only one year old, and in that time it has been determined that this is an expensive mix of topsoil to use, and causes hardships with developments in progress. There is no scientific data to show how much water savings there will be. The reason for reducing to 4 inches is to alleviate the cost and hardships while still retaining water.

Motion by Chairperson Levine, seconded by Commissioner Brauer, to recommend that City Council adopt Ordinance #11-\_\_ Amending the Required Depth of Topsoil from Six (6) to Four (4) Inches.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Brauer, Brauer, and Schiller. Voting No: Commissioner Van Scoy. None. Absent: Commissioners Dunaway and Field.

**Case #2: Consider Amendment to Master Park and Trail Map**

**Presentation**

Senior Planner Gladhill presented the Staff Report.

**Commission Business**

Motion by Chairperson Levine, seconded by Commissioner Van Scoy, to recommend that City Council adopt the revised Master Park and Trail Map.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Bauer, Brauer, and Schiller. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Dunaway and Field.

**Case #3: Staff Update**

The Staff Update was noted.

**Case #4: Zoning Bulletins**

The Zoning Bulletins were noted.

**COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Van Scoy, seconded by Commissioner Brauer, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Brauer, Bauer, and Schiller. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Dunaway and Field.

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Tim Gladhill  
Senior Planner

ATTEST:

---

JoAnn Shaw  
Planning Division Secretary

Drafted by Chris Moksnes  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*