

Mayor Strommen appreciated Commissioner Brauer's concerns. She explained the Council was working to engage the public more in reaching the City's mission and vision. She wanted to see the Council held accountable if the new goals and objectives were not being achieved.

Commissioner Nosan stated she was thrilled after reading the strategic plan and thanked the Mayor for her attendance this evening.

Chairperson Levine encouraged the Council and entire City staff to continue working to improve the Ramsey. He was pleased that the strategic plan had the City moving in the right direction.

Mayor Strommen encouraged the Commissioners to contact her at any time with additional feedback.

5.02: Consider Site Plan for Building Expansion at 14350 Azurite Street NW; Case of Diamond Graphics, Inc.

Presentation

Development Services Manager Gladhill presented the staff report stating Diamond Graphics located at 14350 Azurite Street NW was requesting Site Plan Approval for a 28,034 square foot building addition to expand their manufacturing facility. A site plan review and approval by the Planning Commission and City Council was required for commercial and industrial developments and expansions. Staff reviewed the site plan in detail with the Commission and recommended approval.

Commission Business

Don Patterson, Diamond Graphics, provided a history of his business stating the growth in his business was requiring him to further expand his facility. He explained Diamond Graphics was thriving in the City of Ramsey. He thanked staff for providing a thorough report this evening and requested the Commission approve the proposed site plan for a building expansion.

Commissioner Bauer requested further information on the proposed parking and asked if the additional asphalt surfaces were necessary.

Mr. Patterson stated he currently has 105 full time employees working over three shifts. He noted the additional parking would greatly assist his employees during shift changes. He anticipated that another 20 employees would be hired after the expansion was completed. Mr. Patterson explained temporary staffing was brought in during November and December, which also required additional parking. He then discussed an additional expansion (Phase III) planned for the facility in five years.

Jeff Benedict, Vanguard Construction, stated the future expansion at Diamond Graphics could be a separate building. This was an unknown and time would tell how the needs of the company would evolve.

Motion by Commissioner Bauer, seconded by Commissioner Nosan, to recommend that City Council approve the Site Plan submittal contingent upon compliance with the City Staff Review Letter dated July 12, 2013, directing Staff to work with the applicant on tree placement.

Further discussion

Commissioner VanScoy commented if Phase III was not completed, the facility may not have adequate landscaping.

Commissioner Brauer indicated if the motion would require the applicant to work with Staff on the tree placement to assure all planting requirements were met.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Bauer, Nosan, Brauer, and VanScoy. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Field and Maul.

5.03: Consider Sketch Plan Review of Oakwood Acres Located Along 167th Avenue, West of Nowthen Boulevard; Case of Oakwood Land Development

Presentation

Development Services Manager Gladhill presented the staff report asking the Commission to review a sketch plan of Oakwood Acres located along 167th Avenue west of Nowthen Boulevard for Oakwood Land Development. He explained the submitted subdivision proposed to plat approximately 1.1 acres to create three (3) buildable single-family lots. He requested the Commission review the plans and provide Staff comment on how to proceed.

Commission Business

Commissioner Bauer requested further information on the 167th Avenue road realignment.

Development Services Manager Gladhill explained the realignment was done to create more cohesion in the community while strengthening the east-west road connections after the Brookfield neighborhood was completed.

Commissioner Nosan asked how the lots sizes compared to the neighborhood.

Development Services Manager Gladhill indicated the proposed lots were slightly smaller than the neighboring lots on 167th Avenue.