

GRANITE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Public Monthly Meeting

Courthouse Courtroom

220 N. Sansome Street, Philipsburg

May 6, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Granite County Planning Board Members: Gail Leeper, Tom Rue, Tom Sanders and John Spaeth.

Planning Board Staff: Linda Bouck, Granite County Planning Director

Guests: Jackie Bolster, Lucinda Christensen, Elena Gagliano and E. Presby.

I: Call to Order

Vice-Chair John Spaeth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board and Staff introduced themselves.

II: Pledge of Allegiance

III. Election of Officers

The election of officers was tabled until after the Growth Policy discussion.

IV. Growth Policy Update

Linda Bouck stated that board member Jim Lochridge was unable to attend this evening but he had come in and given some comments that he wanted to have passed along to the Planning Board members. He believes the questionnaire samples supplied are too vague and would like to see the questions tailored more to specific concerns currently and less generalized. He also had stated he was concerned that the number of questionnaires being sent out would be overload as other entities are also sending out questionnaires this summer to gather input from the Philipsburg community members. He is also concerned with the confusion between the County Growth Policy and the new Town of Philipsburg Growth Policy. He has had a lot of people who have specific concerns that he has spoken with and has found that people are confusing what is being discussed by the Town of Philipsburg as it would apply to the County. He believes it might be in the Boards best interest to concentrate on the Town of Philipsburg this year and supporting them in their process and waiting to complete the County's Growth Policy update after the Town of Philipsburg has been completed.

Gail Leeper stated she agreed with the position on both points. Wait on the County's Growth Policy update and concentrate on supporting the Town of Philipsburg this year and get more specific questions for a survey to be sent to county property owners next year.

John Spaeth, Tom Rue and Tom Sanders were all in agreement with this as well. **As such the Planning Board will focus on supporting the Town of Philipsburg with completing their new Growth Policy this year and resume updates to the County Growth Policy next year.**

The Planning Board held a generalized discussion of Vacation Rental By Owner (VRBO) and AirBNB. It was noted all rentals should be registering with the State of Montana for bed tax. The only way to control VRBO type rentals was through zoning.

V. Minutes

Gail Leeper made a motion to approve the minutes for April 8, 2021. Tom Sanders seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

The Board held a discussion regarding retaining the existing Planning Board officers – John Spaeth as President and Tom Rue as Vice-President.

Tom Sanders made a motion to retain the existing Planning Board officers - John Spaeth as President and Tom Rue as Vice-President. Gail Leeper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Public Comment

Elena Gagliano asked about the terms for the Planning Board members. (Terms are as follow: Heidi Hinkle - term ends October 2, 2021; Jim Lochridge - term ends October 2, 2023; Gail Leeper - appointed by Town of Drummond, no term limit; Tom Rue – term ends October 2, 2022; Tom Sanders - term ends October 2, 2021; John Spaeth, appointed by Town of Philipsburg, no term limit.)

Jackie Bolster Granite County DES Coordinator introduced herself to the Board members.

VI. Miscellaneous

Lucinda Christensen said she was there for the Trout Creek Subdivision. It was noted this subdivision has not yet been submitted for preliminary plat application. The application would need to be submitted by May 13th to make the next Planning Board meeting on June 3rd. The Board members asked that the next Planning Board meeting be moved to June 13th in which case the application would need to be submitted by May 20th.

Elena Gagliano notified the Board members that Granite County would be hold a board training session next Tuesday, May 11th.

VII. Adjourn

There being no further business, Tom Rue made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Sanders seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2021.

Minutes approved on July 1, 2021

John Spaeth

DRAFT