

Planning Commission Meeting  
May 7th, 2015  
7:00 pm Community Center

**Commission Members:**

Janice Olson (new Commission Chairman, Town Board Supervisor), Susan Keachie, Max Taubert, Joni Vaughan

Members of the Public present: Judy Kerr, Jackie Eid, Matt Lazorik

The Minutes for the April meeting were read. Joni made a motion to approve, Max 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Minutes were approved.

In review of the changes to the Short Term Rental Permit criteria it was considered that a representative from Bayfield County Planning and Zoning be should be consulted or asked for input when appropriate.

No Updates

**Correspondence:**

A Special Use Permit request was received by the Town from Matthew Lazorik for Lake Effect Firearms, LLC which would be located at Matt's home at 22200 State Hwy 13, Cornucopia, WI 54827. Matt explained the nature of the business which is primarily internet based and strictly regulated by the Federal government. Max made a motion that the Town approve the permit based on paragraph 7.3.1 of the Economic Development element of the Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan referring to the Town supporting the creation of internet based cottage industries in the Town. Susan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all were in favor. The Planning Commission recommends that the Town Board approve the permit request.

**Five Year Comprehensive Plan Review**

Max continued the review with the remaining elements: Economic Development and Issues and Opportunities.

**Economic Development:**

Some new businesses have been opened since the Plan was written. Some of the new businesses were discussed. Max noted that a Goal of that Element was encouraging job development.

The Business Park as noted in this element was discussed. Research regarding the costs of bringing electricity into the Business Park area could be done as well as determining the Zoning District that the Town should pursue if the Park was to be developed.

**Issues and Opportunities:**

Max noted that the population of the Town has increased since the 221 residents noted in the 2009 Plan.

In 2014 it was estimated that there were 263 residents.

Bayfield County reported that the adjusted income of the County was up 19.6% and that the State average is up 6.1%.

One of the Goals of the Economic Development element (page 2-17) is supporting and adding to existing businesses.

In the Land Use portion Max noted that on page 2-13 issues of this element were summarized and retaining "Rural Characteristics" was cited by a majority of land owners responding to the survey. On page 2-20 a Goal is outlined to have a review process for structures built or modified within Commercial, Residential/Recreational Business, and Village Mixed Use districts in order to preserve and protect rural and historical characteristics of the Town of Bell. Another Goal in the Land Use element that Max noted was on page 2-21 of the Plan; the Town will thoughtfully consider growth and development in the Lake Superior harbor area.

**Discussion:**

Since a large part of the statistics referred to in the Comprehensive Plan include Census reports, Susan made a motion to set the next 10 year review of the Plan for the year of 2021 when information from the 2020 Census would be available. Max 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it was approved.

Joni made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Max 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

**The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be Thursday June 4th at 7:00 pm at the Community Center.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Keachie  
Secretary