



# Planning Commission of Pine City, Minnesota

## Minutes of Regular Meeting: 18 February 2020

**Commissioners:** D'Aigle, Jahnz, LeMier, Rydberg, Scholin

**City Staff / Officials:** Sauter

**Absent:** Bombard, Christopherson, Pettie, Skluzacek, Student Representative Graci Huff

With no Chair or Vice-Chair present, Sauter called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance. *Minutes of the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with a correction to the name of one participant (Bob Marx instead of Cole Newman) on a motion by Rydberg, seconded by Jahnz.*

**Public Hearing on Pine City Evangelical Free Church Variance Request:** The Pine City Evangelical Free Church has applied for a variance to allow them to begin repair of their parking lot at "The Lighthouse", located at 1045 Main St S, in a General Business district (PID 42.5743.000), with completion of paving, striping, and other details by September of 2025. They would also like a reduction in the number of required parking spaces. Staff have prepared proposed findings of fact and draft resolution P20-03, recommending approval of this variance, with nine conditions. Sauter explained her findings and recommendation.

The public hearing was called to order at 6:32pm, to allow for public input into this proposal. Jim France was present to speak for the applicant. He exhibited a bollard of the type they propose to use to demark parking spaces. There being no further comments, the hearing was closed at 6:37pm.

**Discussion of Pine City Evangelical Free Church Variance Proposal:** Rydberg asked how many parking spaces would be created, and France said that was difficult to say, but that since the church owns the space across the street, it would likely not be a problem. He is concerned about what will happen with the city street in the future. There were more comments and concerns about how the parking relates to the street, and how the accesses will be provided. LeMeir asked about how the city would make sure this plan is followed. Sauter has a condition in the draft resolution, calling for annual inspections. *Scholin made a motion to adopt Resolution P20-03, recommending that the Council grant the variance with the conditions listed. Jahnz seconded the motion, which passed with LeMier abstaining.*

Election of officers was delayed until next month's meeting, when more members may be appointed and present.

**City Council Feedback:** Scholin reported that the Council at its last meeting granted the Premier Properties variance, the City subdivision/lot combination, and the Riverview Estates variance as recommended by the Commission. The Council voted to drop consideration of the shoreland flexibility agreement.

**Commissioners' Concerns:** Rydberg asked about snow piling near the hydrant by her house, and it was suggested she talk with the City Administrator.

**Staff Comments:** Sauter said that she is going to push to have Planning Commission members appointed by next month, and is looking at doing some training activities in the near future.

There being no further business, *Sauter declared the meeting adjourned at 7:09pm.*