

VILLAGE OF BISMARCK
County of Vermilion, State of Illinois
Minutes of Planning Commission Committee Meeting
September 10, 2024, at 6:30pm

1. At 6:32 p.m. the Planning Commission Committee Chairman Rick Kentner presided over the meeting and called meeting to order. Roll call was taken and the planning commission committee members present were committee members Alex Kentner, Eric Siddens, and Ryan Smalley. Committee members Tim Landers, Tim Hillard and Misty Hillard were absent. Residents in attendance were: Scott Defenbaugh, Larry Messmore, Adam Wendell, Ray Hughes, Richard Hale, Adam Yoder, Jennifer Strawser, and Matt Adams.
2. Call for approval of the agenda was requested by Chairman Kentner. Motion to approve agenda as presented was made by Ryan Smalley, with a second made by Eric Siddens. Motion passed by acclamation.
3. Call for approval of the regular minutes from planning commission meeting and public hearing held 8/13/2024 was requested by Chairman Kentner. Motion to approve minutes as presented was made by Alex Kentner, with a second made by Ryan Smalley. Motion passed by acclamation.
4. Public comments were made. There were concerns regarding the wording of several parts of the proposed ordinance; especially regarding no ground mounts for properties under 2.5 acres; inspection requirements; and the cost to the owner if system not found suitable by the inspector. It was noted that the ordinance regarding residential solar could possibly be placed under the current ordinance under “structures” and the proposed residential solar would then have to follow the restrictions related to “structures”, specifically the 10-foot setback, not allowable in the front yard, etc. The residents in attendance unanimously stated they would support that change, as several residents felt that something needed to be in the ordinance. The concern was that the current proposal was too restrictive and they felt it took their rights away as homeowners. The Planning Commission Committee agreed to consider this proposal.
5. Ordinance
 - i. Committee reviewed the Proposed Residential Solar Ordinance. The Planning Commission Committee discussed the public's comments and concerns from the Public Hearing Meeting and the public comments at tonight's meeting. The committee stated that the recommendation to add the residential solar under the current Zoning Ordinance “Accessory Buildings and Structures” makes sense. It would need to be specifically listed under that section. They would like to recommend to the Village Board of Trustees to see if this is possible and what would that take to get that moving. There would need to be an amendment regarding the permit fee as well, because it was felt that residential solar requests would need to come before the planning commission committee and board for any requests. Mr. Kentner will forward the recommendation to the Village Board at their next meeting.
6. No building permits were submitted for review by the Planning Commission Committee during the month of September. No action needed.
7. Old Business- Nothing to report
8. New Business- Nothing to report

11. Adjournment or regular planning commission committee meeting – With no further business to come before the Committee at this time, motion was made to adjourn the planning commission committee regular meeting at 8:14pm. Motion was made by Alex Kentner, with a second made by Ryan Smalley. The motion passed by acclamation.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting – The next regular meeting of the Bismarck Planning Commission Committee will be held at the Bismarck Village Office at 106 E. Holloway in Bismarck, Illinois, on October 8th, 2024 if there are items for discussion. Items to be considered for the agenda are to be submitted by the 20th of the month, to the Village Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandye Kizer, Village Clerk

APPROVED 11/12/2024