

JOINT COMMISSION AND COUNCIL MEETING
August 25, 2014

The Joint Commission and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Olson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Darrel Olson, Council members Jim Klein, Todd Holman, Mark Cross, Commissioners Bob Kinzel, Gwen Carleton, Howie Oswald, Jim Kalkofen, Grail Brecht, Ken Hasskamp, Gail Brecht, Mari Holderness, Kevin Donnay, Gary Handlos, Kevin Donnay, Rock Ylimeini, Lori Rubin, Bob Ryan, Cathy Clark

STAFF PRESENT: Community Development (CD) Director Josh Doty, City Administrator Gordon Heitke, City Clerk Kelly Steele

OTHERS: Phil Carlson, Rod Osterloh, Mary Corrigan, Renee Richardson and Steve Barrows

Mayor Olson thanked everyone for attending this meeting. He explained that the Long Range Planning Commission is made up of Commission members from each commission to ensure all commissions are represented as well as a few residents. The Long Range Planning Commission has reviewed the comprehensive plan and are at the point of having Council approve the new comprehensive plan. Mayor Olson also stated how important each Commission is, being they iron out all of the final details prior to the items being reviewed by the Council, making Council's job much easier. He thanked everyone for taking the time to travel and attend this meeting and prior meetings.

Introduction/Overview of the Comprehensive Plan

CD Director Doty reviewed a power point presentation with all present. *(Please note the presentation is available on the Baxter website: baxtermn.gov)* He reviewed the process of the comprehensive plan and the meetings that were held to complete this process with Mr. Phil Carlson of Stantec, the consultant for this process. CD Director Doty indicated the comprehensive plan will go to City Council for approval in November.

Presentation of Baxter Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Carlson gave those present a brief background of his experience. The Commissioners each stated who they were and which commission they serve on for the City. He then presented the comprehensive plan in a power point to all present. *(Please note the presentation is available on the Baxter website: baxtermn.gov)* The power point showed the growth of Baxter, the types/age of citizens, house hold income, land availability, wellhead protection, existing land uses, the new gateway corridors on Hwy 371 and Hwy 210, transportation, future land use districts, parks/trails and character/identity of Baxter.

Mr. Carlson then asked if there were any questions of him or CD Director Doty.

Commissioner Carleton indicated that she liked the gateway corridor. Council Member Klein asked about the number of rentals in Baxter, if there is a good amount or a bad amount. Mr. Carlson stated that rental property is for all walks of life (life cycle) and is not something to be afraid of, it just needs to fit in the right location, typically close to services.

Council Member Holman asked how the comments are being relayed from the citizens. CD Director Doty stated that a public hearing will be held with the Long Range Planning Commission in September 22, 2014 and

the other city commissions will discuss the comprehensive plan at their regular meeting. Mr. Carlson also suggested an open form type meeting prior to the Long Range Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Kinzel asked if the amount of land use changes have been reviewed to make sure we are not negatively impacting the amount of land uses in the city. Mr. Carlson stated that on the commercial side they have not estimated, but a hunch is that most commercial will be built out in the next 20 years. Commissioner Ryan noted that there were some areas that have been rezoned to allow for more commercial property to be developed in Baxter.

Commissioner Donnay asked Mr. Carlson if the Commission fell short anywhere. Mr. Carlson stated that connections with parks and trails is something that should be watched closely as people want to get around and not always in a car. He also noted that identity and character is also an area to watch and create something unique and different with the land such as the former golf course property. Overall he felt the comprehensive plan for Baxter was solid.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Olson, Mayor

Shanna Newman
CD Technical Clerk