

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 2008,
AT 7:00 P.M., AT THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Dave Thompson. Members present were Jack Edmonds, Ben Hanson, Lee Steinbrecher, and Ken Haskamp. Staff present were Jay Blake and Mary Lou DeWitt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2008

___ MOVED, SECOND BY ___ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2008. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE ___ AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Absent was

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. Amendment to Chapter VII – Signs

The amendment to Chapter VII – Signs as follows:

3. Signs Permitted without a Building Permit

The following described signs are permitted without a building permit:

A. Unlit or externally lit bulletin boards not exceeding 32 square feet used in connection with any church, school, or similar building.

4. Signs Permitted with a Building Permit

A building permit issued by the Building Inspector is necessary prior to the installation or remodeling of any sign as follows:

A. Unlit or externally lit bulletin boards exceeding 32 square feet used in connection with any church, school, or similar public building.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Neighborhood Stabilization Program Grant, Discussion

The City received notice two weeks ago that it was in line to receive a grant from the Federal Government for the purposes of addressing the high rate of foreclosures in our area. The Princeton zip code was determined to be in a critical area for foreclosures, based on the number of actual foreclosures and the percentage of the housing stock impacted by the high numbers.

The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has determined a non-competitive pool of funds totaling at \$5 million to be used in our area. The Greater Minnesota Housing Fund has begun coordinating the joint application for these funds that include the following: Cities Buffalo, St. Michael, Elk River, Monticello, Zimmerman, Isanti, and Princeton. Princeton is expected to receive \$796,000 in March of 2009.

In order to receive the funds, the City must complete and application form and submit it by January 28, 2009, and must agree to establish a Neighborhood Revitalization Plan within the next year. Blake is working on these items at this time.

COMMUNICATION AND REPORTS:

A. January and February, 2009 meeting dates change

The third Monday for January falls on January 19th, and City Hall will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday. The other is February 16th