



City of Blaine Anoka County, Minnesota Minutes

Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Sq Dr NE
Blaine MN 55449

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the City Council. One of the Commission's functions is to hold public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council. The City Council makes all final decisions on these matters. Blaine City Ordinances require that certain documents and information be included in applications. The Planning Commission may postpone consideration of an application that is incomplete and may, for other reasons, postpone final action on an application. For each item the Commission will receive reports prepared by the City staff, open the hearing to the public, and discuss and act on the application.

The council chambers will have limited seating, with audience chairs being set up at least six feet apart. There will be an overflow area where the meeting can be watched in the Cloverleaf Farms Room, also with chairs set up at least six feet apart.

Public comment options prior to the meeting must be received by 4:30 PM on Monday, September 13, 2021. Email comments to: Planning@BlaineMN.gov or phone 763-785-6180.

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Roll Call

The Blaine planning commission met in the City Hall Chambers on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Vice Chair Goracke called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Members Present: Commission Members: Goracke, Halpern, Homan, Olson, Villella. Also present was Adjunct Member Drew Brown.

Members Absent: Commission Member Deonauth and Chair Ouellette.

Staff Present: Eric Thorvig, Community Development Director
Shawn Kaye, Associate Planner
Elizabeth Showalter, Community Development Specialist
Teresa Barnes, Project Engineer

Present: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Commissioner Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella

Absent: 2 - Chair Ouellette, and Deonauth

2. Approval of Minutes**2.-1 Approval of the June 8, 2021 Planning Commission Minutes**

Attachments: [Unapproved Minutes 6/8/21](#)

Motion by Commissioner Halpern to approve the minutes of June 8, 2021, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Homan. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella

3. Old Business

None.

4. New Business**4.-1 Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0030 // Chain of Lakes Church
(Presbytery of the Twin Cities) // 12290 Edison St NE**

The applicant is requesting a conditional use permit to allow for a 4,913 square foot church in a DF (Development Flex) zoning district.

Attachments: [Attachments](#)
[Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Shawn Kaye, Associate Planner. The public hearing for Case File 21-0030 was opened at 7:06PM.

Paul Moore, pastor of Chain of Lakes Church, thanked the planning commission for considering his request. He explained the church wants to be a great neighbor in this community.

The public hearing was closed at 7:08PM.

Motion by Commissioner Olson to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0030 based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0030:

1. The church is limited to the proposed use as a church and as shown in the attached site plan. Other uses such as child care, pre-school or school, exclusive of religious education classes, are not permitted by the CUP and would require subsequent CUP review and approval.

2. Temporary uses, such as outdoor events, are not permitted without a Special Event Permit.

3. The City will monitor traffic levels and patterns for the church and reserves

the right to require the church to provide on-site traffic management should the need arise at some point in the future.

4. Underground irrigation and sod must be provided for the entire site except where a natural/low maintenance landscape area(s) is approved through the site plan process.

5. All site lighting shall be down lit and shielded. Pole-mounted lights are limited to 20 feet in height.

6. Site Plan Approval is required. The applicant must complete the site plan review process and meet all building and fire code requirements as part of the permit process.

7. If it is the judgement of the City that the church's final building construction or site plans are significantly different than the plans attached to this CUP, or any subsequent CUP extension, the site and building plans will need to be reviewed and approved by the City Council with notice sent to the adjacent neighborhood.

8. Permanent signage requires a separate permit approval process.

9. Developer shall explore the use of created ponds, existing wells, or new wells as a source water supply for landscaping systems with a moisture sensor. The developer must obtain city concurrence before connection to the public water system.

10. CCWD permit is required prior to city approval of construction plans and specifications.

11. All internal utilities shall be maintained privately by the property owner or development association, including existing sanitary sewer, water main, storm sewer piping, infiltration basins, and storm water sediment ponds.

12. Separate fire lines and domestic water services are required for each structure from the water lateral lines.

13. Water Availability Charges (WAC) and Sewer Availability Charges (SAC) become due with each building permit.

14. Direct site access to 125th Avenue is limited to a right-in/right-out only and is contingent upon a permit from the Anoka County Highway Department.

15. Private driveways (Yancy Circle/Zumbrota Drive) serving the existing townhomes to be placed in access/maintenance agreements. Applicant to remove the two driveway stubs and restore curb edge as part of site work.

16. The proposed community gardens to maintain a 10 foot setback from all property lines.

17. Any future accessory buildings will require a CUP amendment.

18. The CUP resolution, under the DF zoning, will remain valid for two (2) years after city council adoption. If construction does not commence within the two-year period, the applicant will need to request an extension of the CUP by

the City Council.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Homan. The motion passed 5-0.

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

4.-2

Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0049 // Applewood Pointe of Blaine (United Properties) // 11967 and 11985 Radisson Road NE

The applicant is requesting the following:

1. Comprehensive land use plan amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential).
2. Rezoning from FR (Farm Residential) to DF (Development Flex).
3. Preliminary plat to subdivide 8.41 acres into 1 (one) lot and platted right-of-way to be known as Applewood of Blaine.
4. Conditional use permit to allow for the construction of a 100 unit, four story Senior (age 62+) Cooperative building in a DF (Development Flex) zoning district.

Attachments:

[Attachments](#)

[Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

[Rezoning Denial](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Shawn Kaye, Associate Planner. The public hearing for Case File 21-0049 was opened at 7:20PM.

Dave Young, United Properties representative, thanked the commission for their consideration. He explained United Properties has developed a number of Applewood Pointe complexes in the metro area. He stated he was excited to be bringing this concept to the city of Blaine. He reported the senior cooperative would be “for-sale” housing units and would be for people age 62+. He stated all Applewood Pointe communities are owner controlled and professionally managed. He commented further on how this development would provide life cycle housing in the community. He spoke to the demand for senior housing noting the baby boomers were retiring which was creating a need for senior housing. He described the thoughtful design of the building and reported the four-stories would allow for more greenspace to be preserved. The interior and exterior amenities were further discussed.

Jill Perlinger, 12030 Vermillion Street, Unit D, explained she lived adjacent to this development in a condo and expressed concern with the fact the lakes would be ruined. She reported the lakes and the wildlife would be impacted. She noted she was opposed to the proposed

development.

Mark Perlinger, 12030 Vermillion Street, Unit D, commented he is opposed the project as well. He indicated he would like to see this property used for housing, but not high-density four-story housing. He stated he lives within The Lakes which was a beautiful and peaceful area. He explained he was concerned about how traffic would increase and recommended the commission deny this request.

Joann Baker, 12046 Vermillion Street, Unit B, stated she would be affected by this development. She questioned why the site would be accessed off of 121st Avenue versus Radisson Road. She indicated she is opposed this development.

Bob Hawley, 12002 Vermillion Street, Unit D, explained he served on the board at Gardens of Water Stone Bay. He commented he has talked to many of his residents and all were against this development. He questioned why the proposed development was not gaining access from Radisson Road.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes explained the applicant was working with Anoka County on this matter noting the development would have a right-in, right-out onto Radisson Road and would also have access to 121st Avenue.

Mr. Hawley commented that he was concerned about crime occurring in the underground parking and that he felt it was not fair for the residents of Applewood Pointe to not pay the association dues.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye commented further on how the site would be accessed. She noted it was always the intent to serve this property from 121st Avenue.

Mr. Hawley feared that people in his neighborhood would sell if this development were approved.

Mary Schmidt, 12001 Vermillion Street, Unit D, expressed concern with the height of the proposed building. She noted this would be a very high building. She discussed how her townhome association was a community and noted all of the condo owners would be impacted by the proposed development. She feared how the increased traffic would impact the condo owners with children. She recommended that additional condos or single family homes be considered for this property versus the Applewood Pointe complex.

Howard Heldt, 12010 Vermillion Street, Unit D, stated his main concern was with the traffic that would be running along 121st Avenue. He reported this was a private roadway that was maintained by the association. He did not believe it was fair to those who pay dues to the association to have non-contributors using this roadway. He commented further on the concerns he has regarding the speed of traffic and with the height of the proposed building. He recommended this project not move forward and that 121st Avenue remain closed.

Shirley Tresler, 12046 Vermillion Street, Unit C, discussed how she would be impacted by this development because she lived directly adjacent to 121st Avenue. She stated she was opposed to this project moving forward.

Carissa Fettig, 2521 123rd Court NE, asked if there was discussion regarding the proposed facility being part of The Lakes master association. She questioned if any alternative plans were considered for this property.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye explained no alternative plans were considered, rather the city was responding to an application that was proposed.

Ms. Fettig asked if there was a building of comparable height already in Blaine.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye reported the Cedar Green building behind Wal-Mart was four and five stories.

Ms. Fettig inquired if there was a concrete plan for tree preservation on this property.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye encouraged Ms. Fettig to review the staff report noting trees along the north and west property lines would be preserved.

Ms. Fettig questioned what the price point would be for the Applewood Pointe units. She stated she wanted the integrity of the value in the neighborhood to be preserved.

Ms. Perlinger questioned if the berm along the property line would remain in place.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes explained the berm would remain in place. She reported staff could not require the applicant to increase the

elevation of the berm because it was not on his property.

Nicole Voit, 2423 121st Circle NE, Unit B, explained she lived adjacent to the project area and noted she would be facing the back side of the building. She expressed concern with the rain water that would be coming off the four-story building. She discussed the ice build up she had on her road this past winter and stated she did not want additional water running down her street. She commented on how the four-story building would be an eyesore along with blocking sunlight. She requested the new complex not be allowed to use 121st Avenue.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes reported staff was working with the developer to address drainage from the property. She reported the developer was also working with the watershed district on this matter. She explained the wetland would be preserved and all of the water from the property would have to be managed on the site.

Janice Thompson, 12046 Vermillion Street, Unit A, reported she did not support this development.

Manyda Phengdouangdeth 2429 121st Circle NE, Unit D, explained her unit would face the line of trees that would be preserved between the two properties. She asked if there was any historical data on how the proposed development would impact her property value. She anticipated her property value would decrease.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye encouraged Ms. Phengdouangdeth to contact Anoka County Assessor's office as the County sets the values of properties. She stated she has been told in the past that these types of developments do not adversely impact property values.

Ms. Phengdouangdeth indicated she did not believe it was right for a private HOA roadway to be used publicly by the proposed complex unless they pay for the maintenance of the road. She asked if there would be sidewalks from 121st Avenue to Urbank.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes noted the current site plan does include sidewalks that connects to 121st Avenue to allow the residents to walk around The Lakes. She clarified for the record that the fees paid by the condo owners was for landscaping and noted the city plows the streets.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye stated this was correct noting Vermillion Street and 121st Avenue were public roadways that were maintained by the city.

Ms. Phengdouangdeth inquired if the Applewood Pointe condos could be converted to rental units in the future.

Vice Chair Goracke reported the intent was to have these units for-sale and not rented.

Ms. Phengdouangdeth inquired if the property would have 24/7 security.

Vice Chair Goracke deferred this question to the applicant.

Allen Willie, 11967 Radisson Road, thanked the commission for allowing him to speak. He indicated he supported the project. He discussed the city's 2040 comprehensive plan and noted it was unreasonable to think this property would remain Farm Residential. He indicated the proposed development synchs nicely with the city's proposed plan. He was of the opinion the proposed development worked better on the site than townhomes because it preserved more greenspace. He appreciated the fact the trees would be preserved along the west and north property lines. He explained the development would have little to no impact on the school district. He commented the proposed development would have less traffic impacts than a townhouse development. He discussed the positive financial impacts this project would have on the city. While he understood change was difficult, he encouraged the commission to offer their support.

Ms. Voit feared the building would be shadowing her property and asked if the building height could be reduced.

Gary Rettke, 11945 Radisson Road, stated he lived right next door to this property. He indicated he was the first resident in this area of Blaine noting his home was built in 1984. He explained he was excited to have a pickleball court next door, but believed the four stories was too high. He encouraged the commission to consider how this four-story building would impact the adjacent properties. He asked that the city also take a closer look at the tree loss, noting Blaine was focused on tree preservation. He believed that Applewood Pointe was a fine organization, but he recommended another site be considered. He stated he did not believe it was fair to make the existing homes forever live in the shade.

As no one else wished to appear, the public hearing was closed at 8:14PM.

Mr. Young stated he conducted a shadow study for this project and explained the setback was increased to preserve trees and to not cast

shadows onto the adjacent properties. He reported the building would be 50 feet from the property line, when only 30 feet was required. He indicated the property in question was not encumbered by the master association. He noted construction costs were on the rise and it cost more to build this year than it did in 2020. He stated from a tax point, each of these units would be homesteaded. He indicated there was no rental options within the bylaws. He did not anticipate the proposed units would adversely impact adjacent property values. He stated the building would have three staff members but would not have onsite security.

Commissioner Olson asked if nothing would be touched on the property until 60% of the units were sold.

Mr. Young reported this was the case.

Commissioner Olson questioned if the price points for the units were similar throughout the metro area.

Mr. Young stated the price points can fluctuate as time goes on, materials continue to improve and more amenities are added.

Commissioner Olson inquired what the setback was for the adjacent townhomes.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye explained the setback appeared to be approximately 50 feet which meant there would be approximately 100 feet between the two structures.

Commissioner Olson asked if the project were to stall out, if the project would have to come back to the city for reconsideration.

Associate Planner, Shawn Kaye indicated if any changes were to occur, the project would have to be reviewed again by the commission and city council.

Commissioner Villella questioned why the county granted access to Radisson Road, given how high the traffic level was already along this roadway.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes discussed the traffic memo from December 2020 noting the original plan was to direct all traffic through the neighborhood onto 121st Avenue and Urbank. However, after speaking with Anoka County, the applicant was able to gain a right-in, right-out access point to the development.

Commissioner Halpern understood this complex would not be a part of The Lakes development. He asked if the right-in, right-out could be the only access point for this development, in order to create separation from this development and The Lakes.

Project Engineer, Teresa Barnes reported it was always the city's intention to connect or extend this property to 121st Avenue.

Commissioner Halpern stated there has been a continuity of comments from the neighbors that this appears to be a great complex, but that this may be a bad fit for the neighborhood.

Motion by Commissioner Halpern to recommend denial of Planning Case 21-0049A the comprehensive plan amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential).

Motion by Commissioner Halpern to recommend denial of Planning Case 21-0049B a rezoning from FR (Farm Residential) to DF (Development Flex).

Motion by Commissioner Halpern to recommend denial of Planning Case 21-0049C a preliminary plat to subdivide 8.41 acres into 1 (one) lot to be known as Applewood of Blaine.

Motion by Commissioner Halpern to recommend denial of Planning Case 21-0049D the conditional use permit to allow for the construction of a 100 unit, 4-story senior cooperative building in a DF (Development Flex) zoning district.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Olson. The motion failed 2-3 (Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Villella and Chair Goracke opposed).

Aye: 2 - Olson, and Commissioner Halpern

Nay: 3 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, and Villella

Commissioner Olson discussed how much more traffic would be generated if this development were townhomes. She stated she could support this project but suggested the developer build a three story building versus a four story building. She explained this could be added to the CUP approval as Condition 9.

Commissioner Villella commented on how much Blaine was developing and building out. He explained higher density housing was being constructed all over the community. He stated that it was difficult for the city to tell people what to do with their land, if the proposed development met city code requirements. He believed the applicant has done everything that has been asked of them. He commented his only concern with this development was traffic, but he was pleased the site would have a right-in, right-out onto Radisson Road. He reiterated that the city council would be making the final decision on this planning case, noting the planning commission was a recommending body.

Motion by Commissioner Villella to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0049A the comprehensive plan amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential) based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0049A:

- 1. The proposed land use is consistent with the apartment type use proposed for the site.**
- 2. The proposed land use and associated development is in an appropriate location for a high density project as it is close to major intersections and roadway systems.**
- 3. The proposed density of the apartment style building is approximately 12.75 units per acre. This density is very close to what is permitted if it were developed as MDR (6-12 units per acre) and the adjacent parcels land use. The amendment is also being requested because apartments are not listed in the description of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan for MDR but are for HDR.**

Motion by Commissioner Villella to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0049B a rezoning from FR (Farm Residential) to DF (Development Flex) based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0049B:

- 1. The DF zoning has been used in the majority of residential development over the past several years within the City of Blaine as it provides the City with the greatest flexibility and control over the aesthetic and livability elements within the development.**
- 2. The DF zoning allows the city the opportunity to apply standards consistent with other recent master planned developments. The standards will create an attractive benchmark for a quality project.**

Motion by Commissioner Villella to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0049C a preliminary plat to subdivide 8.41 acres into 1 (one) lot to be known as Applewood of Blaine based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0049C:

- 1. Park dedication will be required for the lot as it is final platted. The park dedication fee will be based on the rate in effect at the time of final platting. The current residential park dedication rate (2021) is \$4,449 per unit, for a total park dedication fee (100 units) of \$444,900 is required for the entire plat.**
- 2. Coon Creek Watershed District review and approval is required prior to any site work.**
- 3. There are several structures on the two lots that need to be removed prior to construction. Demolition permits for these structures must be obtained from the City's Building Inspection Department prior to removal.**
- 4. An Anoka County Highway Department permit will be required for the**

access and work along Radisson Road.

5. The applicant will need to remove the proposed second access on the north end of the site from Radisson Road. The county has only authorized one access connection to Radisson Road.

6. The Mayor, City Clerk and City Manager are hereby authorized to execute any and all necessary documents, agreement and releases related to the approval, recording or administration of Applewood of Blaine.

Motion by Commissioner Villella to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0049D the conditional use permit to allow for the construction of a 100 unit, 4-story senior cooperative building in a DF (Development Flex) zoning district based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0049D:

1. This site needs to meet the Highway 65 Overlay District requirements for exterior materials, and the plans that have been submitted for this proposal meet this requirement.
2. The landscaping on site meets the Highway 65 Overlay District requirements for the number of trees provided. However, 25% of the trees need to be oversized to meet the Highway 65 Overlay District standards. Oversized trees must be 3-inch caliper overstory trees and 8-foot conifer trees. It is not recommended that ornamental trees be oversized.
3. A lighting plan will need to be provided that illustrates that the lighting provided meets ordinance requirements. All lighting needs to be downlit and shielded to prevent glare or spill. Pole mounted lighting is limited to 20-feet in height.
4. SAC and WAC payments will also become due prior to the issuance of building permits.
5. The applicant will need to obtain a Coon Creek Watershed District permit prior to city approval of construction plans and specifications.
6. Separate site plan approval and review for issuance of building permits is required.
7. All building and fire Code requirements will need to be met including providing a fire access road if necessary.
8. If construction has not commenced within three years of the issuance of the conditional use permit, the applicant will need to obtain a conditional use permit extension through the City Council.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Homan. The motion passed 3-2 (Commissioner Halpern and Commissioner Olson opposed).

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

4.-3**Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0050 // Ali Obaidi (Modified Living Spaces) // 2952 132nd Avenue NE**

The applicant is requesting a conditional use permit amendment to construct an interior elevator with a 6-foot setback from the side property line in a DF (Development Flex) zoning district.

Attachments: [Attachments](#)
 [Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Elizabeth Showalter, Community Development Specialist. The public hearing for Case File 21-0050 was opened at 8:42PM. As no one wished to appear, the public hearing was closed at 8:43PM.

Motion by Commissioner Olson to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0050 based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0050:

1. **The minimum 6-foot side yard setback is limited to the elevator addition on the west side of the home.**
2. **The proposed addition to match the existing house construction in terms of architectural style, exterior color and materials.**
3. **All other items referenced in Resolution No. 15-44 remain unchanged.**

Motion seconded by Commissioner Halpern. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

4.-4**Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0051 // City of Blaine**

The City is proposing a code amendment to the RR (Regional Recreation) zoning district to add maintenance facilities and outdoor storage as conditional uses.

Attachments: [Code Amendment](#)
 [Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Elizabeth Showalter, Community Development Specialist. The public hearing for Case File 21-0051 was opened at 8:46PM. As no one wished to appear, the public hearing was closed at 8:46PM.

Adjunct Member Brown questioned how the NSC would use the land

where the old maintenance building was located.

Community Development Specialist, Elizabeth Showalter explained she was uncertain how the NSC would use this property in the future.

Motion by Commissioner Homan to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0051 based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0051:

1. Maintenance facilities are necessary for the successful operation of regional recreation facilities and a limited amount of well-located outdoor storage is compatible with the uses in the RR district and nearby districts.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Villella. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

4.-5

Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0054 // National Sports Center (RJ Marco Construction) // 1700 105th Avenue NE

The applicant is requesting a conditional use permit to allow for the construction of a 25,954 square foot maintenance operations center in an RR (Regional Recreation) zoning district.

Attachments: [Attachments](#)
[Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Elizabeth Showalter, Community Development Specialist. The public hearing for Case File 21-0054 was opened at 8:49PM. As no one wished to appear, the public hearing was closed at 8:50PM.

Commissioner Villella discussed the parking situation at the Super Rink stating there was never enough parking. He questioned if the parking would be altered by the new maintenance building.

Community Development Specialist, Elizabeth Showalter reported some parking would be lost, but noted the NSC would be replacing a portion of the lost parking. She indicated the NSC was meeting all of the city's parking requirements.

Paul Mullen, Connelly & Sons Construction, explained he was working with the NSC on this project. He discussed how the parking on the south end would be replaced. He commented further on how traffic would flow through the parking lot.

Motion by Commissioner Homan to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0054 based on the following conditions:

Case 21-0054:

1. Site Plan approval and appropriate permits will be required prior to any work being performed on site. A Site Improvement Performance Agreement and financial guarantee will also be required to cover the site improvements on site.
2. Site to be constructed as shown on the plans attached to the staff report for the conditional use permit application with the following changes:
 - a) The outdoor storage area shall be paved with either concrete or asphalt
 - b) Outdoor storage shall be enclosed by a black PVC coated chain link fence, or other comparable fence, as approved by staff.
 - c) The five trees proposed for removal will need to be replaced elsewhere on the property with five 2.5-caliper inch overstory trees or 6-foot tall conifer trees. A revised landscape plan is required as part of the site plan approval process.
3. Outdoor storage is limited to irrigation and landscaping materials, and large recreation equipment such as soccer nets.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Olson. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Vilella

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

4.-6

Public Hearing Case File No. 21-0046 // City of Blaine

The City is requesting the following items:

1. Code Amendment to create a new B-5 (Commercial) zoning district.
2. Rezoning of various properties from B-1 (Neighborhood Business) and FR (Farm Residence) to B-5 (Commercial).
3. Comprehensive plan land use amendment to change certain properties from LDR (Low Density Residential) and PI/PC (Planned Industrial/Planned Commercial) to PC (Planned Commercial).

Attachments: [Attachments](#)

[Unapproved Minutes 071321](#)

The report to the planning commission was presented by Erik Thorvig, Community Development Director. The public hearing for Case File 21-0046 was opened at 9:05PM.

Mark Kimble, representative for the property at 12064 Lexington Avenue, asked how this zoning would affect the residents that were living in the area.

Community Development Director, Erik Thorvig explained he spoke to a realtor yesterday because he understood this property was for sale. He noted if the property were rezoned to B-5 the existing house would be legal non-conforming. He reported this meant the house could stay in perpetuity, but would provide more options in the future for commercial development.

Mr. Kimble questioned how quickly the area would begin to redevelop into commercial uses.

Community Development Director, Erik Thorvig stated this would begin anytime after the properties were rezoned.

The public hearing was closed at 9:08PM.

Vice Chair Goracke asked if the commission had any comments on the four options presented by staff. He inquired if the commission supported gas stations, convenience stores or fast food in this area. He stated he supported gas stations and did not recommend the council put any restrictions on fast food. He indicated the restaurant market was changing and he did not support the city putting any restrictions in place for fast food restaurants.

Commissioner Halpern agreed restrictions should not be put in place when it comes to fast food. He stated this was a volatile market at this time due to COVID. He indicated he supported Option 2, which limits fast food restaurants to multitenant buildings, to allow for better reuse of buildings if a restaurant goes out of business.

Commissioner Villella commented he was against gas stations. He believed the city had enough gas stations already.

Commissioner Halpern agreed.

Commissioner Villella agreed with Commissioner Halpern's comments on fast food.

Commissioner Olson questioned how the city could limit gas stations in this area, but not in other areas in Blaine. She suggested gas stations and fast food be made a CUP in this area to allow them to be reviewed on a case by case basis, and noted that fast food restaurants are popular. She was of the opinion a large standalone restaurant would not fit in this area, but supported fast food in multitenant buildings.

Commissioner Homan stated she supported gas stations and

recommended fast food be limited to multitenant buildings.

Commissioner Villella thanked the city council and staff for having a strategic vision for this area of Blaine.

Motion by Commissioner Villella to recommend approval of Planning Case 21-0046 a code amendment to create a new B-5 (Commercial) zoning district, approval of a rezoning of various properties from B-1 (Neighborhood Business) and FR (Farm Residence) to B-5 (Commercial), and approval of a comprehensive land use plan amendment to change certain properties from LDR (Low Density Residential) and PI/PC (Planned Industrial/Planned Commercial) to PC (Planned Commercial). Motion seconded by Commissioner Olson. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella

Vice Chair Goracke noted this would be on the agenda of the August 2, 2021 city council meeting.

Adjournment

Adjournment time was 9:16PM.

Motion by Commissioner Homan to adjourn the regular planning commission meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Halpern. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Homan, Commissioner Goracke, Olson, Commissioner Halpern, and Villella