

**Harris Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 28, 2025**

- I. **Call to Order** – Chairman Borash called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call** – City Clerk Shannon Geier conducted roll call. Present were Chairman Jeff Borash, Commissioner Shari Denny, , Commissioner Neil Elmquist, and Commissioner Al Siedow. Commissioner Tina Kolodziej was absent, Geier announced a quorum was present.
- IV. **Consent Agenda** – Denny made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2025. Elmquist seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Public Comment** – None.
- VI. **Regular Agenda** -
 - A. **CUP – Johnny Mold** - Geier and City Planner Claire Stickler provided the Commissioners with an update on developments since the last meeting. Geier had invited Johnny Mold to attend this meeting, but Mold did not respond. Chisago County made attempts to schedule an inspection of the septic system on the property, but Mold has failed to reply. The City cannot proceed until the County certifies that the septic system complies with regulations. Additionally, holding tanks are prohibited, and Mold previously informed Stickler and Geier that the property is occasionally occupied.

The Commissioners raised concerns about the Business Plan for the ministorage, which allows 24-hour access. They suggested limiting the hours of operation, as unrestricted access throughout the night is unsuitable for the R-2 zoning district. Borash made a motion to table the matter until a response is received from the County. Elmquist seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. **Dog boarding, kennel, and dog ordinance** – Stickler recommended that the Commissioners examine Minnesota Statute 347.58, which outlines the licensing and inspection rules for commercial breeders in the state. According to the statute, commercial breeders are required to obtain an annual license for each facility they own or manage. Stickler suggested that Harris could adopt this statute as a framework for regulating commercial breeders locally.

The Commissioners also reviewed the North Branch Kennel License Ordinance as a potential model for regulating kennels in Harris. During their discussions, they debated the appropriate level of regulation and agreed on the need for clear minimum requirements to guide the review of Conditional Use Permit Applications.

As a result, the Commissioners directed Stickler to draft an ordinance based on their discussions. The new ordinance would incorporate items four through six from the North Branch Ordinance regarding kennel licenses, align with the State Statute for commercial breeders, amend the current Harris Ordinance to lower the threshold for requiring a kennel license to five or six dogs, and remove several sections of the existing Harris Ordinance Chapter 90. These sections include: 90.02 Licensing, 90.03 License Application, 90.04 License Fee, 90.05 Term of License, 90.06 Dogs Not Requiring Licensing, 90.07 Tag and Collar, 90.11 Impounding Dogs, 90.12 Notice to Owner, 90.13 Reclaiming Impounded Dog, 90.14 Dogs That Cannot Be Impounded, and 90.15 Selling of Impounded Dogs.

C. **Driveway / Culvert Procedure update** – Stickler suggested that the City Engineer draft a Driveway and Culvert Policy for the Commission's review. Geier has consulted with the Engineer and requested a cost estimate, which she plans to present to the Council for approval.

D. **Trailers on Forest Blvd right by Recycling for Wildlife PID 14.001888.00** – A letter will be sent to the property owner requesting the buildings be removed by July 1, 2025.

VII. **Commissioner Reports** – None.

VIII. **Adjourn** – Siedow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Elmquist seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

City Clerk – Shannon Geier

Jeff Borash - Chair

Date Approved