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**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**From:** Chad Pelishek, Village Manager

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**VILLAGE OF HARRISON**

**Meeting Date:** 2/25/25

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**Title:** Consider request to Amend Previously Adopted Ordinance V25-05 Repeal and Recreate Chapter 2, Section 2-123 and 2-124 Village Plan Commission passed on January 28, 2025.

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**Issue:** None

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**Background and Additional Information:**

Trustee Lancaster, seconded by Trustee Handschke requested this item be placed back on the agenda for future consideration after additional information was received from both the Village Attorney and League of WI Municipalities Attorney.

Ordinance V25-05 was approved at the last board meeting with the understanding that the Village President was required to be on the Plan Commission and be the presiding officer. After review of State Statutes (see below), the village president appoints the members of the commission and chooses the presiding officer. The president may appoint himself or herself to the commission and may appoint other elected or appointed village officials except the commission must always have at least three citizen members who are not village officials.

**62.23 City planning.**

**(1) COMMISSION.**

- (a) The council of any city may by ordinance create a "City Plan Commission," to consist of 7 members. The commission shall also include, as a nonvoting member, a representative from a military base or installation, with at least 200 assigned military personnel or that contains at least 2,000 acres, that is located in the city, if the base's or installation's commanding officer appoints such a representative. All members of the commission, other than the representative appointed by the commanding officer of a military base or installation, shall be appointed by the mayor, who shall also choose the presiding officer. The mayor may appoint himself or herself to the commission and may appoint other city elected or appointed officials, except that the commission shall always have at least 3 citizen members who are not city officials. Citizen members shall be persons of recognized experience and qualifications. The council may by ordinance provide that the membership of the commission shall be as provided thereunder.*
- (d) The members of the commission shall be appointed to hold office for a period of 3 years. Appointments shall be made by the mayor during the month of April for terms that expire in April or at any other time if a vacancy occurs during the middle of a term.*
- (e) The city plan commission shall have power and authority to employ experts and a staff, and to pay for their services and such other expenses as may be necessary and proper, not exceeding, in all, the appropriation that may be made for such commission by the legislative body, or placed at its disposal through gift, and subject to any ordinance or resolution enacted by the governing body.*
- (f) Any city may by ordinance increase the number of members of the city plan commission so as to provide that the building commissioner or building inspector shall serve as a member thereof.*

**61.35 Village planning.** *Section [62.23](#) applies to villages, and the powers and duties conferred and imposed by s. [62.23](#) upon mayors, councils and specified city officials are hereby conferred upon presidents, village boards, and village officials performing duties similar to the duties of such specified city officials, respectively. Any ordinance or resolution passed prior to May 30, 1925, by any village board under s. [61.35](#), 1923 stats., shall remain in effect until repealed or amended by such village board.*

Also, the statute also provides for the Village Board to include in ordinance, if not in charter ordinance, that any appointments by the Village President is subject to board confirmation. If the Village Board chooses, this language can be added to the ordinance revision.

Does the Village Board accept the following changes?

1. The Village President appoints members of the commission subject to confirmation by the Village Board. The Village President may adopt himself or herself to the commission or may choose another citizen member. The Village Board recommends the Village President brings forward a citizen member for appointment vs. appointing himself/herself.
2. The Village President chooses the presiding officer. The Village Board recommends that Commission members make a recommendation to the Village President on who should be the Presiding Officer. The Village President can decide to accept the recommendation or choose another member.
3. The members of the planning commission should be on staggered terms.

Village staff is requesting the Village Board to decide what language they would like to see the revised ordinance and the updated ordinance will be brought back to the board for the March 2025 meeting.

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**Budget Impacts:** None

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**Recommended Action:** Motion of the items to language to be updated in the ordinance and presented at the March meeting.

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**Attachments:**

- a. January 2025 approved version of Ordinance V25-05