

**CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
JANUARY 15, 2025**

1. **Call to Order:** The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dustin Pavek.

2. **Roll Call:** Present were Dean Becker, Deborah Humann, Gail Genin, Dustin Hingos, Marc McMullen, and Dustin Pavek.

Others in attendance: Jessica Rieland, Community Development Director; and Kendra Ellner, Planner with HKGi.

3. **Adopt Agenda:** Motion by Genin, second by Hingos, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.
4. **Approve Minutes:** Motion by McMullen, second by Becker to approve the December 18, 2024, minutes. Motion carried 6-0.
5. **Public Comment:** None

6. **Public Hearing:**

- a. Code Revisions - Solar Energy Systems

Kendra Ellner, Planner with HKGi, reviewed the Staff report in regard to the code revisions for solar energy systems.

Becker asked what the life expectancy of a solar farm is. Community Development Director Rieland noted that the life expectancy is approximately 25 years. She explained that the original code text stated that the decommissioning bond would be collected five years after the use commences, which is out of the norm for how the city processes applications. Currently the city requires the escrow or letter of credit to be collected at the time the permit is submitted.

Public Hearing was opened at 7:09 p.m.

No one came forward to address the Commission

Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

Motion by Becker, second by Humann, to recommend approval of the proposed amendments to Section 10-67-04 of the Zoning Code as presented by Staff. Motion passed 6-0.

7. **Regular Business Items**

None.

8. **Planning Commission Discussion**

Pavek shared that there will be a City Hall/Fire Station Open House on February 1. Rieland added that they will also be having a puzzle exchange on this date.

9. Adjournment:

Motion by Becker, second by Hingos, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Website Link to Packets and Minutes for the Planning Commission:

<https://www.stfrancismn.org/meetings>

Recorded by: Jessica Rieland

DATE APPROVED: