Town Board, Clerk-Treasurer, Zoning, and The Public,

The Planning Commission met on Oct 7, 2025. Please review the commission October agenda (below) and the commentary (way below) providing you with <u>updates and actionable items.</u>

Windemere Township Planning Commission Meeting October 7, 2025, 10 am 316 Elm Ave, Moose Lake, MN

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Pledge
- 3. Roll Call
- 4. Public Comment
- 5. Previous Meeting Minutes
- 6. Town Board Actions Review, if any
- 7. Communications

OLD BUSINESS

- 8. Windemere Ridge Plat
- 9. Short Term Rental (STR) Implementation
 - a. Application Fee
 - b. Timing of Applications/Review Process
 - c. Budget Issues
- 10. Ordinance(s) Compilation, 2015/2025/STR/C-Plan
 - a. Status
 - b. Immediate Issues/Actions, if any
- 11. Zoning Fees
- 12. RV Ordinance Enforcement
- 13. Unnamed Lake(s) Status
- 14. New Town Hall

NEW BUSINESS

- 15. Building Code Considerations
- 16. Adjourn

Commentary

- 1. All members of the commission were present.
- 2. Public comments: Questions regarding the STR implementation, restrictions and limitations. Reviewed and discussed.
- 3. Windemere Ridge Plat. Passed and forwarded to you for approval.
- 4. Short-Term Rental Ordinance. After a number of administrative errors are corrected the ordinance can be made effective January 2026. While it is unfortunate, the admin errors will require the PC to meet and correct the updated version of the ordinance and take whatever actions necessary to bring the ordinance back to you for approval. The prior ordinance amendments dating back as far as the December 10, 2024

approved by town board actions are ineffective because the proper publishing was not done, among other minor mistakes. There is no need to fret, no need to blame any party for this work as it will not be helpful. For the future, please remember there are three distinct parties to effective ordinance enactment, 1. The Planning Commission; 2. The Town Board; and, 3. The Clerk-Treasurer. Each action must be done in

5. The Ordinance Rewrites

proper timing.

- a. This work remains ongoing. We reviewed the progress and asked Zoning Administration (WSB) if we can be assured the rewriting process will be complete before 2025 year-end. WSB answered "affirmative."
- b. The objective of the ordinance rewrites remains:

To establish <u>unambiguous ordinances consistent with the comprehensive</u>

<u>plan, protecting land, waters, health and safety of the community; making uniform compliance feasible</u>

<u>with prompt and unbiased zoning administration.</u>

c. To be clear, the ambiguous ordinance of 2015 leaves citizens confused. Even the planning commission, zoning admin or our attorney is at times perplexed. Truth to be told, the 2015 Ordinance including 135 pages may and likely does cite various stipulations that we do not agree now support. We all anxiously await the rewrites and accomplishment of the above stated objectives.

Note: The current level of public dissatisfaction is directly related to the challenges that were presented in March 2021. At long last, beginning with the PC work between now and year-end, we will, with your cooperation, solve all outstanding issues.

- 6. Zoning Fees. Many of the fees currently in effect and were discussed. We will complete our study of fees and report to the board next month.
- 7. RV Ordinance. Tabled.
- 8. Unnamed Lake. Forwarded to the town board for action.
- 9. Town Hall. Discussion continues consistent with the comprehensive plan.
- 10. Building Code. The State Building Code was discussed. No action taken.

As always, we welcome your discussion, input, and direction.

Thank you,
Paul Horgen,
Chair

Planning Commission