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process. A county establishes its priorities and plan of action to address its priorities. The state does not require certain predetermined solutions. People everywhere are concerned about water issues. Developing a locally initiated comprehensive water plan should set a course of action that is better understood and supported by the public than one initiated by the state or federal government. It also insures that important local issues are addressed. Water planning under the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act is intended to be a local-state partnership. State agencies are willing to provide local governments with information and technical assistance. A good plan can help sort out the roles of local, state, and federal levels in water management. It can also ensure that limited public dollars are spent on high priority matters.

Pine County has initiated the Comprehensive Water Planning process and has assigned responsibility for the plan preparation to the pine County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

Wild and Scenic River Ordinance Amendments

Pine County currently has a Wild and Scenic River Ordinance in effect on the Kettle River. Reclassification of any river to Wild and Scenic will require future in-depth examinations by the county. The protected Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Land Use District cannot include more than 320 acres of land per river mile on both sides of the river. This generally follows the road or property line nearest to an imaginary "line of sight," the approximate distance that a person can see back from the river.

Portions of a designated river may be managed under three (3) different classifications. The Wild River classification is applied to those portions that exist in a free-flowing state (i.e. without significant artificial modification) with excellent water quality and adjacent lands which are essentially primitive. Scenic rivers are those rivers that exist in a free flowing state with adjacent lands which are largely undeveloped. Recreational Rivers are those rivers that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion and that have considerably developed adjacent lands, but are still capable of being protected and preserved.

Pine County currently participates in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Program. The Kettle River is designated as a Wild and Scenic River under the Minnesota program. The Upper St. Croix is a Wild and Scenic River under the federal program guidelines.

Land Use Plan

This element of the Comprehensive Plan guides specific land uses within the Township. The goals and policies create a foundation for future land use decisions in the Township.

The Land Use Plan holds an educational and decision-making function by providing an understanding of how physical development in the Township should take place. Although the Plan emphasizes specific land uses, it should be recognized that such plan is

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influenced by the environment, transportation, and community facilities. A Land Use Plan should keep the following goals in mind:

- Develop a cohesive land use pattern that ensures compatibility and functional relationships among activities and between jurisdictions.
- Promote a compatible land use pattern that limits existing and potential conflicts and respects private property rights.
- Maintain, protect, and where necessary, upgrade the character of established neighborhoods, which includes elimination of non-conforming and incompatible uses.
- Encourage protection of valuable historical sites to preserve the Township's sense of history.
- Promote building durability and expand the local tax base, encouraging commercial development of high architectural and aesthetic quality.
- Protect active agricultural uses and the economic viability of farming operations.

Transportation Plan

While Sandstone Township has a number of transportation modes, primary emphasis in this section will be placed on the Township's "network" which includes the street and highway system. The significance of developing these networks in terms of economic, social and recreational considerations makes them a central concern for the Township and a plan should be implemented as to how this "network" should be developed and the standards by which the "network" should be built.

Park and Trail Plan

It is the goal of the Township to insure that the community's park and trail system should be developed to respond to specific recreational needs of a growing population. In order to do this a Park and Trail Plan should be developed to respond to the needs of the Township with the following goals in find:

- Protect and preserve the natural character and resources of the Township.
- Ensure that land use and development is compatible and harmonious with the natural environment.
- Acquire land for development of a park and trail system to fulfill the long term needs of the Township residents.
- Establish a comprehensive system of safe, aesthetically pleasing and useful parks, natural habitat/greenway corridors and trails that are geographically located throughout the community in a manner compatible with surrounding land uses and that provide a variety of recreation opportunities to all residents of Sandstone Township.

- Ensure that the Township park, trail and open space systems are related to the needs of community residents and that the dedication requirements are roughly proportionate to the impacts generated by development.
- Develop a partnership with the County, adjacent cities and townships, school districts, churches, and civic organizations to provide recreation facilities and programs.

Final Considerations.

Beyond existing county land use regulations, county plans and fiscal programs, and state laws, the successful implementation of the Pine County Comprehensive Plan will also rest with its acceptance with other levels of local government in the county. Townships, for example, will play an important role in the implementation of the plan through the decisions they make regarding local land use issues, local road proposals, and other decisions made in the township. Hopefully, the Pine County Plan can act as a framework, providing direction to townships in their planning and capital facilities decisions. In this way, local decisions can reflect county-wide considerations, while at the same time, township plans remain sensitive to, and incorporate, local township priorities.

SECTION 6

If any portion of this ordinance shall be found unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of proper jurisdiction, all remaining provisions shall remain in effect and shall not be affected by the ruling on the invalid section.

SECTION 7 EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective and enforceable on the day following publication. Passed by the Town Board of Sandstone Township on this 7th day of FEBRUARY 2008.

Signature Joe Dudley
Chairperson

Attested to by: Daniel N. Lloyd
Town Clerk

Notice of hearing published October 11 and 18, 2007
Hearing held October 25, 2007

Recorded _____

Published 13 March 2008

Prepared By
Leland Magnuson
41935 Daxbury Rd
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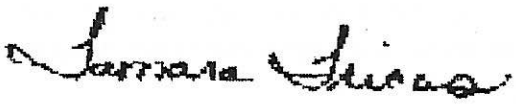
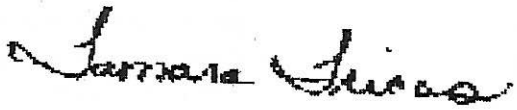


TAMARA TRICAS
COUNTY RECORDER
PINE COUNTY, MN
Fee Amount: $46.00

DOC# T 15530
Cert. #-1

Certified, Filed and or Recorded on
Mar. 07,2008 AT 11:00AM



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