

CITY OF FINLAYSON PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
WORKGROUP MEETING  
MONDAY, June 30, 2025 @ 1-2:30 AT FINLAYSON CITY HALL

**ROLL CALL:** Dennis Liebelt, Nancy Liebelt, Josette Koets, Jeff Flaws, Dave Auchter Marge Haefner, Nate Konkel, Bruce Pogatchnik, Ed Melzark, Zoning Administrator, Penny Simonsen, East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) Guest: Barb Morgan, Brian Masterson, HF Superintendent, Angela Grochowski-HF School Board Member

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Nate Konkel led the group and called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

: Review Comprehensive Plan with Penny Simonsen, East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC)

- Simonsen gave an introduction of the members, grants, survey results, and welcomed guest presenters Brian Masterson and Angela Grochowski from HF School District.
- Masterson provided information about enrollment fluctuation, boundary restructuring, open enrollment choices, upgrades happening, charter-home schooling, gated playground access, ball field access, extreme need to childcare and affordable housing, need for volunteers, communication challenges and expenses.
- P & Z members discussed the need and benefits for signage of events happening at HF School,
- Angela Grochowski spoke of the open gym opportunity, use of the baseball field by youth, pickle ball court upgrade funded by the Finlayson/Giese Lions (not yet completed), explained why there is no Jaguar newsletter or community education fliers (expenses and use of digital). P&Z discussed adding some school/community events to the City of Finlayson website. Masterson and Grochowski left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

These goals relate to the entire community and involve any areas that are considered maintained parks or where no development exists.

- The group discussed where the current and past open spaces and parks exist or were.
- They voiced opinions of the pros and cons of parks and open spaces.
- Koets stated to keep Goal I Policy: 1b from the 2004 Comprehensive Plan as stated.
  - 1b. Require that plans for each new residential subdivision include provisions for the reservation of sufficient open space to serve the needs of the anticipated population, either through park dedication or cash-in-lieu of land (money that is paid to the city when a developer is unable or unwilling to provide park/open space in a development and is usually used to maintain or expand existing parks/open space to accommodate the growth in use caused by the new development).
  - See also: Subdivision Ordinance Adopted on May 21, 2007 Chapter 1, 1.07 (8) Public Land Dedication Open Space (A-E) and other

Penny handed out the following to be reviewed before the next meeting.

- Environment and Natural Resources

- Historic Preservation Goals
- Agricultural Goals
- Complete Parks and Open Spaces

NEXT WORK GROUP MEETING: July 28, 2025 1-2:30 p.m.at Finlayson City Hall

NEXT REGULAR P & Z MEETING: July 7, 2025 6-8:30 pm at Finlayson City Halls

Respectfully submitted by:  
Nancy Liebelt

Addition: In case any of you are interested:

League of Minnesota Cities: Webinar opportunity: Register: [lmc.org/legupdate](https://lmc.org/legupdate)

WEBINAR: LAND USE DECISION MAKING: WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

JULY 15, 2025 | ONLINE

In this free webinar, you'll learn how to create and use "findings of fact"-writing ten explanations that outline the reasoning behind a city's approval or denial of a land use request - as part of your city's land use decisions. The webinar is ideal for appointed and elected officials from small cities and those who are new to land use regulations.