TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS
PLAN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2026

Meeting Place: Grand Rapids Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Present: Chair Jason Grueneberg, Members Tom Heiser, Patty Lumby, Dan Paulsen, Brian Piesik, Douglas Kiesling, Brian Johnson. Also present, Town Attorney Nicholas Abst and Zoning Administrator Saydee Eichhorn
Excused:

Notices of the meeting were legally posted at The Store in Kellner, the Grand Rapids Garage and the Grand Rapids Municipal Building.

Chairperson Grueneberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. **Approval of August 10, 2026, meeting minutes.** *Motion* (Heiser/Keisling) to approve minutes of August 10, 2026, Plan Commission meeting. *Motion carried 7-0.*
2. **Discussion and Possible Approval of Chicken Permit for Corey Shaffer at 5711 Patrick Henry Ct. (parcel no. 0704877)** Corey Shaffer was present to answer questions from the members. No members of the public spoke for or against the Chicken Permit. Member Lumby had questions regarding where the well was in relation to the proposed chicken coop. Shaffer advised that the well is on the opposite side of the home. *Motion* (Paulsen/Johnson) to approve the Chicken Permit for Corey Shaffer at 5711 Patrick Henry Ct. (parcel no. 0704877). *Motion carried 7-0.*
3. **Discussion an Possible Approval of Chicken Permit for Kyle Walker at 5220 Wyatt Ave. (parcel no. 0700675MB).** Kyle Walker was not present to answer questions from the members. No members of the public spoke for or against the Chicken Permit. *Motion* (Lumby/Keisling) to approve the Chicken Permit for Kyle Walker at 5220 Wyatt Ave. (parcel no. 0700675MB). *Motion 7-0.*
4. **Discussion and Possible Approval of Dog Exemption for Connie Wood at 5820 Honeysuckle Ln. (parcel no. 0703970).** Connie Wood was present to answer questions from the members. Two members of the public who received post cards, addressed their opinions via telephone and email prior to the meeting. Wood presented things that she has done to help prevent the barking such as training them to prevent the barking and she is present with them when they are outside. *Motion* (Paulsen/Lumby) to approve the Dog Exemption for Connie Wood at 5820 Honeysuckle Ln. (parcel no. 0703970). *Motion 7-0.*
5. **Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Town Board for rezoning the 7.054-acre parcel of land identified as parcel number 0700677A (property address 1721 48th St S.) from A Agriculture to R-2 Residential One- and Two- Family owned by Michelle VanErt.** Joe Winkelman was present on behalf of Michelle VanErt. Attorney Abst advised that this proposal would be consistent with the Comprehensive Future Land Use Map. Winkelman explained what his plan is if the rezone is approved, which would be to split the parcel into 3, selling one to a neighbor and retaining one with the possibility of building a single-family home. Member Lumby had questions regarding the proposed lot sizes to verify if any would still qualify for agricultural zoning. Winkelman stated that they would all be under 5-acres. Member Keisling wanted to clarify the number of accessory structures currently on the property. Winkelman explained that he intends to only have one accessory building and a home. *Motion* (Lumby/Heiser) to recommend to the Town Board for rezoning the 7.054-acre parcel identified as parcel number 0700677A (property address 1721 48th St S.) from A Agriculture to R-2 Residential One- and Two- Family owned by Michelle VanErt. *Motion 7-0.*

6. **Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Town Board regarding the Conditional Use Permit request for the purpose of temporary carnival events on the property owned by the Grand Rapids Lions Club located at 2411 36th Street South, parcel #0700662BA in Section 22, Township 22 North, Range 6 East, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.** Arne Nystrom, d/b/a Grand Rapids Lions Club, was present to answer questions from the members. Nystrom would like to see the permit approved for a longer term. Member Lumby had questions regarding insurance, emergency response team notification and disposing of waste if a longer term were to be approved. Nystrom addressed Lumby's questions. Member Heiser asked Nystrom how long of a term he was looking to receive. Nystrom replied that he would like to see the approval term of 5-years but would be happy with 3-years due to contracting with the carnivals. Chair Grueneberg stated that the possibility of having a longer term with stipulations, may make it more complicated than taking out a permit every year. Discussion took place on the fee for conditional use permits and covering the cost for the Town for yearly, and for multi-year terms. *Motion* (Heiser/Paulsen) to recommend to Town Board for Conditional Use Permit request for the purpose of temporary carnival events on the property owned by the Grand Rapids Lions Club located at 2411 36th St S, parcel 0700662BA in Section 22, Township 22 North, Range 6 East, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, for a 3-year permit with the conditions that the Town be notified of annual insurance coverage, written notification that EMS, Police, Fire, and ambulance will be notified, and also notify the Town of any changes in contacts/officers for the Grand Rapids Lions Club. Additionally, referral to the Board to review the Conditional Use Permit fee to better align with our current fee schedule. *Motion 7-0.*
7. **Discussion regarding numerous parts of ordinance 52 Zoning, relating to multiple proposed revisions, relating to conditional use permitting process and zoning districts allowed uses.** Chair Grueneberg stated that there are some uses not listed in our ordinance that should be added, for example Child Care Centers. Discussion took place regarding proposed verbiage relating to data centers. Further discussion to take place at a future meeting.
8. **Public Input, subject to limitations imposed by the commission chair. No action will be taken on any issues raised.** *No public input.*
9. **Future agenda items.** *Discussion on parts of ordinance 52, Dog Exemption, Setback Variation for Corner lot.*
10. **Establish next agenda date and time.** *October 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.*
11. **Adjourn.** *Motion* (Heiser/Kiesling) to adjourn. *Motion carried 7-0.*

Minutes subject to Commission approval.

Respectfully submitted and approved

This _____ day of _____, 2026

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