

FAYAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, February 18th, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chair Peritz. Members present: Heidi Latvaaho, Chris Erickson, Alex Peritz and Ashley Dabbas. Bill O'Neal was absent.

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 19th, 2025 meeting, made by Erickson, support from Dabbas. Motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled Guests- None at this time.

Audience Concerns- None at this time.

Correspondence-

November 24th- Email from Jon Utecht with St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District with 2025 watercraft inspection results at the Ely Lake boat landing. Under Old Business.

December 26th- Letter from St. Louis County Planning and Zoning Department with public hearing scheduled for February 5th at 9:00 AM for proposed St. Louis County Zoning Ordinance 62 amendments.

February 4th- Email from Jon Utecht from North St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District with the complete 2025 aquatic invasive species report. Under Old Business.

February 10th- Email from St. Louis County Planning and Zoning Department with variance application for parcel 340-0010-05840. Under New Business.

Old Business-

Economic Development Authority- No updates.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program- Discussion regarding the history of partnering with North St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District. Reviewed the annual report and discussed. Have not heard yet if the grant for 2026 was awarded.

Grant Funding Opportunities- The Town Board is currently working on a grant opportunity through USTA Northern for funding for the tennis courts. Discussion regarding \$50,000.00 estimate for crack repair and \$190,000.00 for full reconstruct. Currently have a \$2,500.00 outstanding grant from the Eveleth Community Foundation.

New Business-

Reorganization- Discussion regarding term expirations. Peritz term expires 12/31/2026.

Motion for Peritz as Chair, Erickson as Vice-Chair and Latvaaho as Secretary, made by Erickson, support from Dabbas. Motion carried unanimously.

Variance Request- Erickson contacted St. Louis County Planning Department to discuss the need for the variance. Lake Country Power intends to purchase a four acre lot to construct a new substation. The variance request is for exceeding the 25% impervious surface. Discussion regarding lot size. Potentially also issue regarding lot size and zoning type. Discussion regarding the property and general variances.

Motion to defer to St. Louis County, made by Latvaaho, support from Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of the Comprehensive Plan- Will hold off review until next meeting.

Discussion to cancel March's meeting due to scheduling conflicts. Can hold a meeting if necessary. Next meeting will be April 15th.

Motion to adjourn, made by Erickson.

Chair Peritz adjourned the meeting at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi Latvaaho". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Secretary Heidi Latvaaho