

Huntley trustees consider plans for Panera Bread restaurant, retail space

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May 6, 2017

[HUNTLEY](#) – Panera Bread could be coming to Huntley.

Plans for the construction of a multi-tenant building, which would include a Panera Bread restaurant, were brought before the Huntley Committee of the Whole meeting Thursday.

Hamra Enterprises submitted conceptual plans for a proposed 7,500-square-foot building at the southeast corner of Route 47 and Kreutzer Road, village documents show.

About 4,200 square feet of the building would be used for the Panera Bread restaurant with a drive-thru, and the remaining 3,300 square feet would host a retailer that has not yet been identified, documents show.

Although trustees made a few suggestions regarding the flow of the drive-thru, they overall were supportive of the plan.

“We waited a long time, and we’re excited to have Panera,” Trustee Ronda Goldman said. “And every resident knows about it – it’s the worst kept secret, so we don’t want to hold things up, either.”

Project representatives said that if final plans are approved, construction likely would start this year, and the restaurant would open in early 2018.

The building would consist of two different colors of brick with aluminum awnings over some of the windows and doorways, documents show. There also would be an outdoor seating area for Panera Bread.

The next step would be for Hamra Enterprises to begin the formal development review process with the Plan Commission, documents show.

