

Regal Beloit office project gets go-ahead

Written by STEVE OSTERMANN
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Site plan approved for \$5.2 million building as addition to business park

The proposed construction of an office building to house Regal Beloit Co.'s corporate headquarters in Grafton moved a step closer to reality this week when the village's Plan Commission approved a site plan for the project.

Groth Design Group submitted the plan, which calls for a 45,218-square-foot, single-story building to become part of the soon-to-be-expanded Grafton Business Park.

The \$5.2 million building will be constructed on a six-acre site at the southwest corner of Cheyenne Avenue and Badger Court, which the village plans to extend.

The building will house Regal Beloit's global information technology, engineering and marketing operations, including the offices of Leeson Electric Corp., which the firm owns. Regal Beloit's Grafton headquarters are currently in the former Leeson building on Highway 60.

In a report to the commission, Village Planning Director Mike Rambousek said the company initially plans to have 110 employees working weekdays in the building. There will be two parking lots with 152 vehicle spaces.

Construction is expected to begin in early June and be completed by December.

Rambousek suggested architectural changes for the building, which he said needs a more cohesive design. He said he hopes his concerns will be resolved by having Groth Design Group work with his staff before the project goes to the Architectural Review Board on May 31.

"Overall, the project is off to a nice start, and the site plan has no major issue," Rambousek said. "However, architecturally the building will require a dramatic upgrade for the Planning and Development staff to recommend approval to the Architectural Review Board."