

TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

ZONING COMMITTEE AND PLAN COMMISSION

Minutes Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 8:32 A.M.

Members Present: Dick Hemming, Paul Specht, Forrest Jukich, Carl Schoenecker, Al Drum; Absent Peggy Johnson Wiessner; Others present: Marshall Reckard, Cathy Weber, Ramona Kubica

In the absence of Secretary Peggy Johnson Wiessner, Chair Dick Hemming appointed Al Drum as recording secretary.

Item 1. Chair Dick Hemming called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M. at the Presque Isle Community Center.

Item 2. Paul moved, seconded by Carl, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Item 3. Paul moved, seconded by Carl, to approve the minutes of May 8, 2018, with one change: Change minutes to show Carl present at that meeting. Motion carried.

Item 5A Old Business: Chair Hemming gave the floor to Ramona Kubica to report on the Carlin zoning use issue. Ramona reported that both attorneys have submitted arguments to appellate court which has 90 days within which to decide the case. Carmen Farwell has information on the arguments submitted. The Carlin water bottling group has also applied to Vilas County Board of Adjustment to hear its arguments requesting the right to load tanker trucks at the Carlin property and transport to the bottling plant. There are reports that the Marenisco plant has two bottling lines planned, one using Marenisco public water as the supply, and a second set to use Carlin water.

Item 4. Chair Hemming then recognized Marshall Reckard for public comment. Marshall referred to Vilas County Article V, "Requirements for Specific Uses". We should read this and think about it.

Item 5B Old Business: Committee action on re-zone of Parcel 022-1080 following May 8 Public Hearing. Al moved, seconded by Carl, to grant the requested zoning change of Presque Isle Tax Parcel #022-1080 from the use category of Forestry, to the category of All Purpose. A wide ranging discussion followed prior to a vote. Paul did not favor the granting of the change, feeling that the applicant did not provide enough information, or understanding of the process, to warrant a change at this time. As a member of the public, Cathy Weber felt that All Purpose might not be a good fit in that location in the Town. Marshall Reckard, as a member of the public, pointed out that our Plan needs two changes before the requested zoning use change for the parcel in question can be finalized: 1) The Plan needs to have the use category All Purpose added, and an obsolete term removed; 2) The Plan needs to have the use mapping changed to show Parcel #022-1080 as All Purpose. In general, Al felt that the applicant did provide all necessary information to the Committee. Dick offered that the applicant's application efforts were sufficient, that all required public notices were issued, and that there was no evidence of negative consequences from the rezone.

Chair Hemming called for a vote. The motion passed, with Dick, Carl and Al voting Aye, and Paul voting Nay.

Item 5C Old Business: Broadband Forward Model Ordinance—Discussion and possible action. This subject sparked lengthy discussion. Paul indicated that we need more information. We should talk to towns that have signed up with the Public Service Commission's (PSC) “Broadband Forward” program. It appears that PSC is not pushing this initiative. Being on the list does not seem to help in getting grants. The town seems to be the prime mover in this program. Whether or not we become a certified “Broadband Forward” entity appears to be unimportant. Paul suggested perhaps our town should have a point person to study this program and to move this program forward. We need to know why we should be certified.

Dick agreed that a point person is needed. He also pointed out that he solved his own lack of internet service himself by installing a satellite receiver.

Cathy agreed with the point person concept.

More discussion followed, with Paul offering to talk to certified towns.

Cathy answered Dick's question about why she is promoting this program by stating she wants to help residents who are presently underserved. and adding that broadband is important to economic development.

Dick didn't see what motion we could make right at this time, and Carl asked if the Ordinance Committee was, or should be, in any way involved. Dick summarized by stating that the Committee would take no action now, and that Paul would make calls to towns as mentioned. The program can be addressed in future meetings.

Item 6A New Business: Changes to the Town's Comprehensive Plan pending action on Parcel 022-1080-discussion and possible action. Marshall began by pointing out that we're actually changing Special Purpose to All Purpose in the Comprehensive Plan; no hearing is needed for this. We're also changing the subject parcel in the Plan from Forestry to All Purpose.

Dick then pointed out that on our next agenda we need to do the following: 1) Change Special Purpose on the Comprehensive Plan to All Purpose; 2) Change Parcel 022-1080 from Forestry on the Plan to All Purpose.

Forrest Jukich then introduced a new subject of New Business not on the agenda. Forrest described a Presque Isle property that had an unsafe building and an owner apparently unwilling to remedy the unsafe condition. Marshall said he would discuss this with the town attorney, and asked if anything in zoning ordinance chapters dealt with this subject. Forrest summarized a chapter discussing the procedure for unsafe properties. Dick asked Forrest to present the case at a regular town board meeting so that the town board can deal with it.

Next meeting is Tuesday, July 10, 2018, 8:30 A.M.

Paul moved to adjourn, seconded by Carl. All Aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Drum, Designated Recording Secretary

