

TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE

ZONING COMMITTEE & PLAN COMMISSION

Minutes Feb. 14 , 2023v1, P.I. Community Center

Five Members Present: Chairperson Peggy Johnson- Wiessner; Al Drum; Marshall Reckard, Carl Schoenecker; Paul Specht via phone. Forrest Jukich Zoning Administrator via phone. Peggy called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Motion to approve the agenda by Marshall , second by Al. All Aye. Motion to approve the January minutes of the special & regular meeting held Jan. 11, 2022 with corrections from Paul. Motion to approve with corrections by Marshall , seconded by Al. All Aye.

Public Comment: Mike Brandt , Nancy Brandt, Paul Mueller, and Town Chairperson John McClean

Old Business:

- A. 6:16 Storage Container Ordinance. As a public comment Mike Brandt brought up the terms “storage containers” & “shipping containers”. Paul explained that the ordinance addresses both shipping containers and storage containers, but the ordinance should really read “shipping containers”. Mike continued giving his opinion on the merits of shipping containers, gave a handout to the committee, and brought up the question how you were going to “grandfather” current shipping containers in place? Marshall questioned a Point of Order . Marshall’s contention was since this was already made available on the Public Hearing; further discussion is not required. Peggy questioned Marshall’s Point of Order. Peggy explained & ruled to Marshall it is perfectly acceptable to have public comment despite previous public hearing. Peggy attempted to summarize Mike’s contention that further discussion was warranted in future meeting, specifically grandfathering, cargo container utility, and general trailer discussions. Again, the title of the ordinance, was agree that it should read “shipping container”. Peggy stated that more time needed to be spent on this topic. John McClean mention painting schemes. Marshall moved to table to next meeting, Al seconded. All aye.
- B. Camping Ordinance. Public hearing delayed accommodating “summer residents” inputs. The 96 hr. rule was discussed again. At one point in time the 96 hr. rule was thought to be state law mandated. Not the case, it was generated by Presque Isle Town Board in 1999. Peggy thought that during the public hearing , there would hopefully input on the existing 96 hr. rule. Marshall motioned to table, Al seconded, with the idea for a public hearing in May.

New Business

- A. Changes to zoning ordinances aiding affordable housing construction. Peggy explained this was a general topic for future work. Marshall explained that in the past, the town board historically was amenable to accommodating requests where the overall best interest to the town. Peggy would like to see the committee expand its scope. Paul stated that this discussion was part of our 20-year plan. Al had some questions on R2. Peggy thought the present regulations in Presque Isle was restrictive to attract housing development related the younger workforce, i.e. rental units. Paul Mueller, from public comment, added that he thought the committee was on the right path, and with road development brought a concern relating to Broadband.. John McClean brought up an example of road development related to safety that may aid in property/housing development for this issue.

Zoning Administrator Report: Lost telephone communication with Forest.

General Discussion: Paul mentioned the ordinance writing process. Both the zoning committee & town board need to better communicate the ordinance writing process.

Next meeting Tuesday Mar. 14, 2023 / 3 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Carl, seconded by Al. All Aye. @ 3:55 p.m.