

Planning & Zoning Minutes
Maine Prairie Township
April 11, 2017

Planning and Zoning meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Zoning Administrator Froehling/Supervisor Kuechle to approve March 7, 2017 Planning and Zoning meeting minutes. All in favor, motion passed.

New Business:

Subdivision Changes/Township Subdivision Process – Heidi Winskowski, Stearns

County: – Heidi Winskowski, Stearns County Environmental Services Department was present to speak to the Board regarding amending Subdivision Ordinance #230. Winskowski informed the Board that Stearns County is considering amending Subdivision Ordinance #230 with a public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2017. The purpose of this amendment is to reduce the time it takes for approval of minor plats. The proposal includes accomplishing this goal by:

- 1) Allowing the Environmental Services Director to sign minor plats. This eliminates the need for a property owner to wait for a County Board meeting.
- 2) Asking Townships to document their plat approval process and eliminate and/or reduce the number of Township meetings for a property owner to obtain plat approval. Currently in many Townships, up to four meetings is required to gain plat approval.

Winskowski informed the Board that it would be the decision of the Board as to how to proceed. If the Board decides to proceed with this option, the County will draft a resolution to document the Township plat approval process. This decision by the Board is tabled until the May 9th meeting. Clerk Hunt to send Winskowski a copy of the Subdivision Ordinance Questionnaire.

Thomas Krupke – Variance Public Hearing:

The hearing opened with Clerk Hunt reading the legal notice published in the Tri-County News on March 30 and April 6 notifying the residents of the hearing. There were no calls or letters received concerning this variance request. Thomas Krupke is requesting a variance to allow placement of a 26' x 38' parking garage with a setback of 41' from the center of East Shore Drive rather than the 63' setback from the center of East Shore Drive as set forth in Stearns County Ordinance No. 439. Chair Loewen called for comments from the floor. There were no public comments. Motion by Supervisor Wicker/Kuechle to close the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. All in favor, motion carried. Brief discussion held among the Board. Hearing reopened. Motion by Supervisor Wicker/Zoning Administrator Froehling to grant the Krupke variance request with no conditions. All in favor, motion carried.

Dan Lynch – Preliminary Plat: Sam DeLeo, Land Surveyor, was present on behalf of the Lynch brothers to get Board approval for the preliminary plat of Lotz Lake Shore. Motion by Supervisors Kuechle/Wicker to approve the preliminary plat of Lotz Lake Shore. All in favor, motion carried.

Richard Eckman – Preliminary Plat: Sam DeLeo, Land Surveyor, and Richard Eckman were present to get Board approval for the preliminary plat of South Lakeside Farm Addition Plat 2. Eckman wants to add one (1) more, two (2) acre lot to South Lakeside Farm Addition. Motion by Supervisor Wicker/Zoning Administrator Froehling to approve the preliminary plat of South Lakeside Farm Addition Plat 2. All in favor, motion carried.

Richard Eckman – Land Split: Richard Eckman and his Attorney, Tom Zipoy were present to request Board approval to split off 30.29 acres owned by Richard Eckman. Existing PID 20.11108.000 owned by Richard Eckman is to be subdivided into two tracts. Tract A is to be conveyed to Dennis and Jo Ellen Loewen as an attachment to their 80 acre parcel identified as PID 20.11109.0000. The residual, Tract B, is to be attached to Richard Eckman’s existing parcel identified as PID 20.11101.0000. Motion by Supervisors Kuechle/Wicker to approve a Certificate of Compliance for this Administrative Subdivision. All in favor, motion carried.

Order of Business Changed to Review 83rd Avenue Road Improvement Bids.

Planning and Zoning reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

Eva Smith (Randy Meierhofer presenter) – Land Split: Randy Meierhofer and mother-in-law Eva Smith were present to request Board approval to split five (5) acres off 80 acres owned by Eva Smith. Smith is splitting off 75 acres to sell with one (1) building entitlement. Motion by Chair Loewen, seconded by Zoning Administrator Froehling to approve a Certificate of Compliance for this split. All in favor, motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Froehling presented two (2) permits for approval as follows:

Tom Konz	60’ X 128’ Pole Shed	\$50.00
	72’ X 144’ Pole Shed	
Richard Serbus	20’ X 36’ Shed	\$50.00

There were no County permits for review.

Motion by Supervisors Kuechle/Wicker to approve permits as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Heidi Winskowski, Stearns County presented a question to the Board pertaining to the Zoning Recommendation that was submitted by Maine Prairie Township regarding Brian Dietman requesting changing his zoning from Agriculture to Commercial or Industrial. Motion by Supervisor Wicker, seconded by Chair Loewen that Maine Prairie Township recommend Commercial over Industrial. All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business, Motion by Zoning Administrator Froehling/Chair Loewen to adjourn Planning and Zoning at 8:15 p.m. and reconvene to Board meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,,Lori Hunt,Clerk/Treasurer