

PLANNING AND ZONING MINUTES
Maine Prairie Township
December 13, 2022

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

Motion by Zoning Administrator Froehling seconded by Supervisor Kuechle to approve the November 1, 2022 Planning and Zoning meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Knife River – North Central/Bauerly Atwood Gravel Mining Permit Renewal: The board discussed the upcoming gravel mining permit renewal for the North Central/Bauerly Atwood Pit. This pit is up for renewal in early January. Knife River – North Central is purposing a ten (10) year permit renewal. Knife River – North Central continues to keep the Atwood gravel pit an active gravel source until the source is depleted, which could continue on past 10 years. More discussion to follow at the January 10, 2023 Planning and Zoning Meeting.

Review and Approve Township Permits: None

Review County Permits: Two (2) County permits were received for review as follows:

Gordon & Susan Lyrek	2088 ft 2 Single Family Residential Dwelling w/Attached Garage
Kevin & Joyce Libbesmeier	(2) Dual Axis Solar Trackers

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

Old Business:

VRBO Moratorium: Angie Berg, Environmental Services Department, Stearns County was present at the December 13th meeting to discuss Ordinance #640. This Ordinance amends the standards for Vacation/Short Term Rentals and will be effective on January 1, 2023.

During this meeting with Berg, the board discussed adopting a change restricting rentals to two (2) times per month. In this case, the County would continue to administer all of the rules and place a condition on the permit that applicants must also follow the Township Ordinance. If there was a violation of this provision, the Township would be responsible for enforcing it. If the Township chooses to adopt any more restrictive provisions, the County and Township would need to negotiate who should do the permitting as it may make the most sense for the Township to take on this role. In shoreland, the county would issue the permit after the Township.

If the Township chose to be more restrictive and require an IUP for rentals of eight occupants or less, the Township would be responsible for holding the public hearing for the IUP and no permit from the County would be required. The County would still be responsible for the health/safety provisions and issue the lodging license.

More discussion on this issue to follow at the January 10th meeting.

Dog Kennel Permitting Process: Maine Prairie Township shall continue to implement Dog Kennel Permits according to the Maine Prairie Township By-Laws for the Regulation of Dogs, Ordinance Number 3.

Motion by Chair Wicker/Supervisor Loewen to adjourn Planning and Zoning at 7:40 p.m.
All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Hunt
Clerk/Treasurer