

MINUTES JOINT PLANNING BOARD

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

Chairperson Don Pietsch called the Joint Planning Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Members present were Donovan Mayer, Don Wiese, Gerry Mehr, and Renee Eckerly, City Administrator.

Motion was made by Wiese to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2013 Joint Planning Board meeting. Seconded by Mayer and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENT OF AT LARGE MEMBER

Motion was made by Wiese to appoint Gerry Mehr to the At Large Position of the Joint Planning Board. Seconded by Mayer and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Mayer to elect Pietsch as Chair, Wiese as Vice Chair, and Eckerly as Secretary. Seconded by Mehr and unanimously carried.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board consented to set the Joint Planning Board meetings on an as needed basis.

RE-ZONE REQUEST – WILLIE SCHEEL PROPERTY

It was reported that it is being proposed to re-zone 23.76 acres in the Township from Agriculture to Commercial with a 75' buffer and no access to Wilglo Acres. There was no opposition at the Re-Zoning Public Hearing held by Paynesville Township. The Joint Planning Board, City, and Township all support the 75' buffer zone. Marco and Stephanie Scholz submitted written opposition to the proposed re-zone directly to the Stearns County Planning Board. The Stearns County Planning Commission denied the re-zoning and 75' buffer. Stearns County wants a 150' buffer. Willie Scheel did not attend the County meeting.

City annexation would allow commercial, but not industrial. The City zoning is a 20' setback which includes the 20' buffer zone. Pietsch visited with Stearns County Commissioners to table this item until the Joint Planning Board and Paynesville Township could re-visit this item.

Yesterday Marco Scholz visited with Pietsch and Wiese. Mr. Scholz's concern is that the trees would all be removed. Wiese and Pietsch explained to Scholz the 75' buffer zone and that there would be no access to Wilglo Acres. Scholz was then fine with the proposed re-zone. Scholz requested a letter be written for him to sign (the Township will draft the letter). The buffer zone would not be re-zoned or constructed on. In the past the buffer zone has been turned over to the Township for maintenance. On the plat it would be marked as an Outlot A and turned over to the Township.

The Township will send a letter to the Stearns County Commissioners reaffirming the re-zone with at 75' buffer.

Motion was made by Mehr that the situation was reviewed by Paynesville Township with Marco Scholz and Mr. Scholz is in support of the 75' buffer zone which will be enforced in the platting process. Seconded by Wiese and unanimously carried.

The Board wants to make sure that if the Board is saying there is a 75' buffer zone that the Board makes sure it happens and it is enforceable.

2nd ISLAND

The Township is working on getting 2nd Island being included in the MN Land Trust. The Township has already put docks and boat landings in.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.