

Approved 11/07/2017

Minutes of the October 3, 2017 Meeting of the Manitowish Waters Planning Commission

Meeting called to order at 6:19 P.M. by Chair Dan Sleight.

Commissioners Present: Sleight, Becker, Hoehn, Hanson, Johns, Kramer

Absent: Bauers

Also Present: Zoning Administrator Thiessen

Public Visitors: Kim Kost, Kevin Griffith, Jason Luszczak, Kathleen Luszczak, Laurel Tschurwald, Evan Pretzer, Karen Dixon, Pat Donovan, Debbie Donovan

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hanson, second by Becker, to approve the agenda and waive the reading. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Correspondence

None

Reports and/or Recommendations from Town Committees

No discussion or action

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Motion by Becker, second by Kramer, to approve the September 5, 2017 Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried, with Johns abstaining.

Zoning Administrator's Report

Thiessen reported an update to the Hunter's Point driveway issue. The issue went to a variance hearing, with the result that the Board of Appeals will allow the driveway to stay, but a retaining wall must be constructed. Owner is contacting contractors. Thiessen is not sure that the matter is entirely resolved between neighbors, but the Town's involvement in the issue is.

Secretary's Report

Hoehn reported that he did send out copies of the revised Comprehensive Plan and maps via emailed PDF files to the adjacent towns; Iron and Vilas Counties; the Department of Administration; and North Central Regional Planning Commission, as required by statute.

Luszczak CUP application

Following discussion, including confirmation that there will be windows and also overhangs on three sides, motion by Hoehn, second by Johns, to approve the application as presented. Roll call vote: Becker: Aye Hanson: Aye Hoehn: Aye Kramer: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried.

Donovan CUP application

Following information that there will be a wainscot on the front and two foot overhangs all around, and include windows, motion by Hanson, second by Johns to approve the application. Roll call vote: Becker: Aye Hanson: Aye Hoehn: Aye Kramer: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried.

Tschurwald Petition to Amend Article 7.3(A)

Thiessen: Have had some issues over the years with the 15 foot requirement, but have also had people tell him that the requirement helps keep headlights from shining into neighbor's windows. Most issues have been resolved by the existing language allowing a reduction to 5' with the neighbor's consent. Considers this a solution looking for a problem.

Kim Kost: Against the proposal, already a solution in the ordinance.

Laurel Tschurwald: Questions why even have the ordinance if there are no follow-up inspections. Discussion on actual process followed, including permitting and enforcement.

Hanson: There are areas in ordinance inconsistent with the County, but those were deliberate choices.

Motion by Hoehn, second by Johns, to recommend to the Town Board to deny the petition. Roll call vote: Becker: Aye Hanson: Aye Hoehn: Aye Kramer: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried.

Motion by Johns, second by Hanson to not require payment of a fee by the petitioner for this petition. Motion carried.

Amendments to the Manitowish Waters Zoning Ordinance

Copies of the hearing notice for the Public Hearing on Article IX scheduled for November 7 were handed out. No other discussion or action on Article IX.

Comments from Kim Kost relating to the last variance meeting: No definition of a driveway in the ordinance, which was an issue for the Board of Appeals. There was a question on whether the concrete alongside of the house is driveway, apron, or just a large sidewalk. Also a question on whether or not there is a setback for retaining walls. (The Commission views retaining walls as something similar to a fence, which has a setback of 6 inches.) Kost also commented on the proliferation of real estate signs, many of which are illegal.

Plan Commission Secretary Employee Evaluation

Motion by Johns, second by Hanson, to go into closed session as per the agenda. Roll call vote: Becker: Aye Hanson: Aye Hoehn: Aye Kramer: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried. Time was 6:58.

Motion by Hanson, second by Johns, to reconvene in open session. Roll call vote: Becker: Aye Hanson: Aye Hoehn: Aye Kramer: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried. Time was 7:02.

Motion by Johns, second by Kramer, to increase the secretary's pay by \$2.00/hour, and to approve the secretary's contract with that amount of pay. Motion carried, with Hoehn abstaining.

Following comments by Hanson, it was agreed that future meetings will be held at the Community Center. The 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. has already been reserved for Planning Commission meetings into 2018.

Next meeting November 7, 2017, following the public hearings beginning at 6:00 P.M.

Meeting declared adjourned by Chair Sleight. Time was 7:09 P.M.