

Planning Commission Meeting
6:00 p.m. Tuesday February 8, 2022

Members Present: Bruce Paulson, Susan Jackson, Richard Fott, Mark Legvold, Eric Workman, and Charles Anderson (Board Liaison)

Guests Present: Linus Langer, Dave & Cindy Roehl, Victor Volkert, Robert Kluver, Brian Evenson, Gregory Langer, Mary Collins, Andy Anderson, there were online guests as well.

6:00 p.m. The meeting opened with Workman leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Opening comments were given by Chair Workman. Attendees were reminded on purpose and focus of meetings and that regular scheduled meetings are not Public Hearings.

Agenda – Legvold moved and Paulson gave a second on the Agenda. Motion passed, x5.

Minutes – Fott moved and Legvold gave a second on the Minutes. Motion passed, x5.

Liaison report was given to Town Board regarding Kluver project and work on Policies & Procedures Manual. No new zoning/permit requests. Langer spoke about work done in the past on building site rights that was validated by the Board. Workman made point current picture could be presented better in Green Book overall but in particular section in review there has been no activity. Langer shared history on sites going further back in time where older sites can be identified easily off plat books though not from most recent records and transactions. Legvold commented his own records search was informative. He stated we have a good map, and the accompanying notes behind the maps aid in study of updates. Workman asked on other updates with other sections which Zoning Administrator can comment on.

Legvold moved for authorization on Rusty & Nancy Kluver's building sites request. Paulson gave a second and the motion passed with Workman opposed and others all in favor. (4/1)

Residential Energy Zoning – Workman recommends concentrating on propane and solid fuels this meeting while saving solar questions for next meeting. Others agreed with saving solar for next meeting.

EXHIBIT A – Propane Tank Ordinance: PC reviewed State fire code, NFPA 58 National Fire Protection Association chpt. 61 and Minnesota Department of Public Safety information from State Fire Marshal Division... Paulson made note of setbacks being of importance. Buildings are 50 ft. and what does State say on setbacks? (Statute 51? 10ft?) Workman noted that state code only addresses distance from buildings does not mention setback from property lines. Legvold emphasized simple-as-possible will be best approach and not to redo existing installed systems. Jackson asked NFPA vs MN vs TWP references? Fott mentioned recent news on hydrogen and pipelines. Would it be allowed? Would buried tanks be allowed? Legvold and Workman noted "standards" in Ordinances where our own examples like 5.07 are useful.

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Solid Fuel – A model Ordinance was reviewed from another community. What gets burned in units (hopefully not garbage)? Fott observed language on how high chimneys should be with respect to smoke and safety? Jackson noticed there is a lot of useful information already in sample ordinance such as grills and other factors that could come up. Wet and dry wood/fuel was discussed. RE: EPA Jackson suggests avoiding the word “year” and substituting “current” instead. Workman noted units should be “certified” and Jackson brought up decommissioning plan when needed. Example on pg5. talks about removal and how existing systems can’t be expanded/moved/replaced, etc, and would a demo permit be required?

The March meeting was moved to Wednesday March 9th. Elections and Township Day in Minnesota is always the second Tuesday in March, which will be March 8, 2022. There will be invited guests including possibly someone from Dakota Electric Coop, students from the University of Minnesota working on residential solar zoning policy, and Richard Fott’s son, who has experience in neighboring townships with zoning and solar.

Susan Jackson moved for adjournment. Richard Fott made a second and the motion passed, x5.

Respectfully submitted,

Linus Langer / Clerk