

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

www.townofstgermain.org

MINUTES PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE: JANUARY 9, 2014

1. Call To Order: The chairman noted that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law. Meeting called to order by Chairman Marv Anderson at 6:30 P.M.

2. Roll Call: Marv Anderson, Tom Christensen, Gerald Hensen, Jaime Ricart, Tom Martens, town clerk. Mary Platner came in at 7:00 P.M. There were two other people present.

3. Approval of Agenda: Motion Christensen seconded Hensen that the agenda be approved in any order at the discretion of the chair. Approved...

4. Discussion Items:

A. Zoning Administrator Report: Mr. Ebert gave his end of the year report. He also noted that it seemed that more people were building without permits. It was suggested that something be put in the tax letter or in the newspaper. Mr. Christensen said that Mr. Linehan had contacted him. Mr. Anderson noted that the height of Mr. Thadius's garage would be checked in the spring. The time frame of when the garage was built and when the requirement changed needs to be checked out. The snowmobile repair business on Hwy. 155 near Lollycoogan Lane is a permitted use in the district.

B. Dog & Cat Ordinance: Mr. Ebert said that he has never felt that it was his responsibility to do anything about the dog & cat ordinance. He felt that it was a matter for the constable. Mr. Christensen thought that the committee should work on one thing at a time. Ms. Platner felt that the present dog & cat ordinance should be abandoned and that it should be bundled with the home occupation ordinance. She also added that the dog & cat ordinance has never been enforced.

C. Home Occupation Ordinance: It was suggested that a question concerning a home occupation go to the board of appeals. There should be a form for it. Ms. Platner sent out a sheet on home occupations. Mr. Ricart said that our situation is not the same as in a city. We shouldn't have to try to solve individual cases. Motion Platner seconded Christensen to open a discussion concerning potential changes with respect to a home occupation ordinance and that a review is initiated to have the home occupation ordinance improved within the next two months. By a voice vote all "yes". Motion carried. Ms. Platner noted that if a home occupation is not offending to the neighbors, then there are no complaints. However, the neighbors should have a say in the matter.

D. Nuisance Ordinance Draft: Does the town want to take people to court? Can the town assess a special assessment instead of going to court? Mr. Anderson will check with the WTA. Mr. Anderson will explain the other changes that have been suggested by the committee to the town board.

5. Committee Concerns: Mr. Ebert stated that the setbacks need to be updated on the town's website. The clerk was instructed to remove all of the ordinances from the town's website. He was to put in "under construction, contact Tim Ebert, town zoning administrator. The fees, maps and forms were to be left on the site. Mr. Ebert also thought that he could enforce zoning, land division and travelway ordinance matters, but that he couldn't do anything about the other ordinances

6. Set Time and Date for Next Meeting: The next planning & zoning committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in meeting room #5 of the community center.

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7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Town Clerk

Chairman Member Member

Member Member