

Minutes

Silver Lake Planning Commission Meeting

7:00pm June 14, 2022

Auditorium

Meeting called to order 7:00pm

Members Present: Commissioner Joanna Jacobs, Commissioner Amy Penaz, Commissioner Neil Syvertson, Mayor Bruce Bebo

Members Absent: Commissioner Ryan McDonald, Commissioner Sarah Kahn

Other Present: Diane Pedersen City Clerk/Treasurer, Jim Nowak, Aaron Rasmussen, Don Kulas

Approve minutes from April 12, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Syvertson second by Commissioner Penaz to approve the minutes from April 12, 2022. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried

Public Comment

Old Business

1. LED Sign Update – Jim Nowak
 - a. Jim engineered the header for the sign and AWI in Winsted will fabricate it. The cost should be around \$7000 rather than the \$12,000 quoted from another company. It will have dark blue translucent letters with LED lights on the inside of the header.
 - b. Civics have allocated a \$10,000 donation as well as covering the \$500 engineering fee.
 - c. Snopros have donated \$4,000. That money has been received.
 - d. Provided a list of organizations in town and Jim will reach out to them for donations.
 - e. Asked if Covid funds can be used to help pay for the sign. Council has not designated those funds yet.
 - f. Needs the engineer to approve CAD drawings before he can move forward. Commissioner Jacobs will reach out to Commissioner McDonald for contact information.
 - g. Hoping to have the sign ready to put up next spring.
 - h. The sign will require a commercial building permit and plan review by MNSPECT to make sure the footings are the correct size to hold up the sign.
 - i. City Sign Ordinance will be reviewed regarding the placement of the sign and projection of illumination from the sign.
2. Ryan Raisanen – 115 Mimms Ave update
 - a. Conditional Use Permit request for a fabrication business withdrawn. May do construction instead which will not require work or materials being done from home.
3. MNTAP Update – Commissioner Kahn was not present, so no updates were given.

New Business

1. 645 Grand Avenue – Property owner Aaron Rasmussen was present.
 - a. Stated he wanted to be a part of the city at first, but his general contractor told him the city would not let him be a part of the city because of the cell phone tower. He was told the cell phone tower would have to be taken down to be a part of the city and the lease currently runs until 2024 and he didn't want to wait that long.
 - b. He also stated that the city did not want him to build a modular house which was another reason he could not be a part of the city. He was informed that these things were never discussed with the city, and he stated that his general contractor provided him with that

information. His general contractor told him he spoke with the city six or seven months ago and was given the previously stated information.

- c. Under the assumption that he could not annex into the city, he presented his plans to the county and the county issued permits for him to proceed with installing a well and septic system.
 - d. The property is Hale Township property, and he is asking for permission for a curb cut onto the city street of Grand Avenue. The lot currently has street access onto Railroad Street. He was told by the realtor that he did not own the access onto Railroad Street, that it was an easement but after having it surveyed, he learned that he did own it.
 - e. His house is being placed 45 feet from Grand Avenue and 70 feet from the field which makes access from Railroad Street a long driveway. The home is facing Grand Avenue and the footing has been completed.
 - f. The options for the property were sent to the general contractor Lifestyle Homes in Litchfield. They are grant a curb cut and allow access to the city street, deny the curb cut because the property is not city property and there currently is access off Railroad Street, or annex the property into the city which would require hooking up to city water and sewer and removing/capping the current well and septic system. The access off Railroad Street is 20 feet wide, which is wide enough for a driveway. Offsets are determined by the county.
 - g. There is concern in allowing access onto Grand Avenue and setting a precedent that would apply to other township property requesting access onto city streets when the properties are not paying city taxes which pay for the street maintenance. He hopes to build a new home on the property in 5-7 years and would consider annexation if he could keep the well and septic system until then. City Ordinance Section 5 Subd. 2 D requires hookup within 90 days of receiving official notice that hookup is required. He offered to pay an annual fee for street access.
 - h. The recommendation from the Planning Commission to the City Council will be to deny access onto Grand Avenue so as not to set a precedent for other township properties. He was invited to attend the city council meeting on Monday, June 20, to address the council as well.
2. Dylan Brakemeier
 - a. Purchasing a building on Main Street, wondering what types of businesses the city is looking for. DID NOT ATTEND THE MEETING.
 3. Horseshoe pits being repaired. The Lions will be contributing \$1000. The city will pay \$750 for the red rock surrounding the pits.

Open Discussion

1. Citizen Concern received regarding a camper parked on private property with several individuals living in it for the past three weeks.
 - a. The City Ordinance prohibiting this is Chapter 14 Part 3 Zoning Ordinance Section 2.18A General Regulations Permanent Foundations which states "Any buildings used as living quarters in any zoning district must be constructed or placed upon a permanent foundation with frost footings as set forth in sections 1300.6100 of the MN Uniform Building Code."
 - b. An ordinance violation letter will be sent to the homeowner detailing the violations of the permanent foundations, pets running at large, noise and blight issues and the timeframe in which they must comply with the ordinances.
2. Regarding 645 Grand Ave, the question was raised as to whether the city is supposed to be notified by the township and county of activities taking place within a certain number of feet/miles of city property. This question will be researched.

Adjourn 7:56pm

Motion by Commissioner Penaz second by Commissioner Syvertson adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried