

Planning Commission Meeting

October 8th, 2015

7:00 pm Community Center

Commission Members:

Janice Olson, Susan Keachie, Max Taubert and Joni Vaughan

Max made a motion to approve the September Minutes, Joni 2nd and the Minutes were approved.

No Updates

Correspondence

The Planning Commission received a letter Bruce Bennett of Apostle Island Realty on behalf of Wayne Ustby, a land owner in the Town of Bell. Mr. Ustby is requesting a formal easement across Town of Bell land for access to his property which is adjacent to the Town parcel. Currently the property is accessed by a private drive off of Rocky Rd. that crosses land owned by another and then continues across Town of Bell property. In order for Mr. Ustby to obtain Title Insurance that will secure a sale of his property he needs to provide the prospective buyer with proof of legal access.

After some discussion Commissioners agreed on several concerns in relation to the easement:

1. Possibility of the parcel being subdivided creating more traffic on the driveway
2. Town liability on the road including maintenance
3. Costs of legal consultation

Susan made a motion to recommend that the Town seek a legal opinion on the repercussions of granting the easement and what potential restrictions might be considered if granting it. Max 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

Review of Town of Bell existing ordinances

Commissioners began a review of current Town ordinances with the consideration of which are enforceable and which should perhaps be abandoned. Janice had talked to an attorney at the Town's Association about the question of Ordinances expiring at some point or becoming invalid after the Town accepted "Village Powers". The response was that unless an Ordinance has a specific expiration date noted in the Ordinance it remains in effect until it is redacted or rescinded.

The question of when the Town assumed Village Powers and exactly how that affects Town governance and specifically Ordinances has been difficult to answer. Janice suggested that perhaps Mary Beth as Town Clerk may be able to answer that.

Review of ordinances will continue at the next meeting.

Susan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Janice 2nd, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be November 5th at 7:00 pm at the Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Keachie

Secretary