

**PLAN COMMISSION
TOWN OF GRANT
APRIL 21, 2010**

Present at the meeting were Sharon Schwab, Julie Kramer, Marti Rutz, Darcy Held Nathan Wolosek, and Jim Wendels. Not present was excused member Scott Provost.

Citizens present included Jeff Sisco, Jerry Rogers, Gary Wierzbicki, Leonard Schroer and Paul Cieslewicz from the Portage County Drainage Commission.

Meeting called to order by Jim Wendels at 7:00.

February minutes reviewed. Approval pending upon correction of the spelling of Marty's name.

CITIZEN INPUT

- Paul Cieslewicz shared information about the removal of #20 dam which was constructed in 1934 and abandoned in 1996. Removal will be sometime between July 15 and September 30 so that it doesn't affect trout fishing. Townline Road will be closed for 1 day for culvert installation.
- Nathan voiced a concern about the dams being removed. Once they're gone there's no getting the water back. Dams were put in for irrigation and flood control.
- Citizen recommendation is to resolve the Fire Protection Ordinance.
- Jim approached the Outdoor Woodburner Ordinance at the Annual Meeting and the consensus was to have rules and regulations without eliminating them from high density residential areas.

ENTERTAIN JEFF SISCO CUP and QUARRY POND PERMIT

The Plan Commission reviewed and discussed with Jeff, his application submissions and fees. (See applications.) The board approved the permits with inclusion that Jeff continues to excavate the pond with a 3 to 1 slope. Sharon recused herself from the vote, all other members, ayes. A public hearing will be set up for May 12, 2010.

OUTDOOR WOODBURNER ORDINANCE

Below are discussion bullets.

- Phase II burners will cost \$3000 more.
- Installing a chimney which consists of 3, 4' sections will need reinforcement. A chimney of this size would cost about \$600.
- If stacks are too short, sparks could fly out and cause a fire.
- Need restrictions for stack height.
- Need a timeline for time of year woodburners can operate.
- Need restrictions on what can be burned in woodburner.
- Restrict burning according to fire danger warnings.
- Gary Wierzbicki feels a nuisance ordinance is what is needed.
- If an outdoor woodburner can meet indoor EPA Phase II standards, should they be allowed?
- Gary Wierzbicki runs 1-4 fans to keep his yard eased from the neighbors' outdoor woodburner.

- Have setbacks and stack height requirements. (2' above neighbors' peak.)
- No grandfather clause. Time limit to comply.
- Work with Model Ordinance from WTA and DNR.
- See handouts from Nathan and Darcy.

Sharon Schwab was excused from the meeting at this point.

ZONING ADMINSTRATOR UPDATE

- Marty reported a total of \$430 in permits for the month of March.
- Mary received a complaint about chickens in a high density residential area. A review of the Zoning Ordinance came up with: Page 14: D.3: Buildings used to house animals or poultry shall not be closer than 100 feet to any side lot adjacent to a residential lot. Page 3: Intent: This District is intended to provide for high density, unsewered, one or two family residential development. This District is intended to promote a residential atmosphere and to protect residential property values by prohibiting uses, which are incompatible with homes. *Upon review, the Plan Commission came to the decision that chickens are not allowed in high residential/subdivision areas.*
- A complaint was received from Cindy Sullivan that a camper with 2 guys and 3 pit bulls moved onto the Higgins property. As of late, she hasn't seen the guys. It's been noted that the Higgins may be dealing junk. Marty will send a letter to Ron Higgins to address this problem.
- We reviewed Page 21 of the Zoning Ordinance to discuss the interpretation of: "The zoning administrator shall have the power and authority at all reasonable times to enter or make provisions to enter upon any public or private premises and make inspection thereof and to require the production of the permit for any building, structure, or permanent equipment thereof. If refused access to property, a special inspection warrant may be secured from the courts to perform the necessary inspection. Any person interfering with the lawful work of the zoning administrator shall be subject to the forfeiture described in this Ordinance."

DOG ORDINANCE

The Dog Ordinance is completed and will be handed over to the clerk for Town Board approval.

LOOKING AHEAD

Nuisance/Junk Ordinance, Driveway Ordinance

Meeting adjourned at 10:05. Motion made by Darcy Held, seconded by Jim Wendels.

Next meeting Wednesday, May 26, 7:00.

Julie Kramer
Plan Commission Secretary

ACTION ITEMS

Sharon and Jim will compose a letter to send to Ray Schmidt/check County Subdivision Ordinance before contacting Ray.

Review with the Transfer Station employees items that are dumpster/nondumpster items
Invite Pete Rekoske to the Plan Commission meeting in June 2010 to report his progress on cleaning up of junk on his property.