

PLAN COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF GRANT
April 18, 2018

PRESENT: Jim Wendels (Chairperson- arrived at 7:45 pm) Sharon Schwab, Tom Reitter, Ron Becker, (Committee Members), Kathleen Lee (Secretary)

EXCUSED: Nathan Wolosek, Marty Rutz (Zoning Administrator)

GUEST: Kristen Johnson

CITIZENS: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm by Ron Becker.

STATE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

It was stated that the agenda was posted at two posting stations (the Grant Town Hall and the Grant Transfer Station) and on the Town's website.

MINUTES

A few word changes were suggested for the Town Board Report. It was moved by Tom Reitter and seconded by Sharon Schwab to approve the March 21, 2018 minutes with the suggested changes. The motion passed with unanimous ayes.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Review of 8.1 Map continued. Discussion resumed with the northern half of the Town.

- Discussion of Section 30 was started at the last meeting and now continued – Parcel #018220730-12.23 was discussed and will remain single family as a home will likely be started on the empty lot before the Comp Plan is published. Two acres of parcel #018220730-15.02 will be designated as single family and the rest will remain undeveloped. A single family designation will be placed over the home and garage on parcel #018220730-09.48. A commercial property will be changed to a single family designation on parcel #018220730-09.47. A portion of commercial property parcel #018220730-09.07 with a house will be changed to single family. The grass parcel east of a parking lot will be changed to undeveloped on parcel #018220730-09.07. The house on #018220730-09.46 will be changed to single family from commercial. The duplex on parcel #018220730-08.13 will be changed from commercial to single family (residential.) Parcel #018220730-08.05 will be changed from commercial to residential. **Note: anything previously designated as single family up to this point will be designated as residential on Map 8.1.** The entire parcel #018220730-08.10 will be changed to commercial from residential. The Picket Fence property will be changed to commercial from single family on parcel #018220730-08.03A. The house on #018220730-08.02 will be changed to residential from commercial. A portion of parcel #018220730-05.16 will be changed from undeveloped to agriculture. Parcel #018730201 (Kiwanis Club) will be changed to commercial from residential.
- Section 19 – Parcel #018220719-09.108 (Church at Wazeecha) will be changed from residential to institutional. A portion of parcel #018220719-08.19 will be changed from

undeveloped to agriculture. The single family use on parcel #018220719-08.08 will be changed to commercial (tower). A residence will be added to parcels #018220719-04.06 and 04.07.

- Section 18 – On parcel #018220718-16.07, a portion will be changed to agriculture from residential.
- Section 7 - Portions of parcel #018220707-02.02 will be changed from undeveloped to agriculture (pasture land).
- Section 6 – An irregular shaped portion of parcel #018220706-16 will be changed from undeveloped to agricultural

At the next meeting, we will work on text of chapter 8 and/or Map 8.2.

ADDITIONAL MEETING DATE

June 19, 2018

CITIZEN INPUT

None

MEETING CHAIR

At this point (8:15 pm), Jim Wendels assumed chair of meeting.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

There was one permit for an UAP for \$20.

TOWN BOARD REPORT

An article on the Farmland Preservation Survey was circulated.

The Town Board is considering a change to ordinance 1-83. Currently the Town can elect to not renew a liquor license for failure to pay taxes. A change in ordinance has been suggested to include non-renewal additional infractions including fire code violations. Suggested wording changes are being sent to legal counsel for review.

On April 11th, a large crowd gathered to discuss ATV routes. Only one change to the routes was approved at that time. To improve clarity, the Plan Commission made suggestions on the wording used to describe all routes including the recent addition of Oak Street and the Waushara Roadrunners ATV club connecting trail. At the meeting, Sheriff Lukas reiterated that an ordinance cannot state that citizens can drive from their homes to the approved routes. Still this is something the Plan Commission was interested in enacting in the past and something other communities include in their ordinance. More information is needed on this practice and how law enforcement in those communities view those ordinances.

At the Annual Town Meeting, two motions passed. One called for a referendum on ATVs in the Town. The other requested a moratorium on any changes to the ordinance until an ad hoc committee finished its work.

An ATV ad hoc committee was formed at the Monthly Board Meeting. Members include a representative of the Saratoga ATV club who lives on Lake Road, a representative of the Roadrunners ATV club (Waushara County), Donna Wagner (Townline Road) Pat Wallner (from

the subdivision), Kathy Havitz (owner of the Chat-R-Box), Bill Hildendorf, a representative from Portage County Sheriff, possibly the warden, and the Town Board members.

S. Schwab explained Act 87. Under 2017 Wisconsin Act 87, a city, village, or town may enact an ordinance authorizing the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) on a highway that has a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less and is located within the territorial boundaries of the city, village, or town. The Act provides that a city, village, or town may authorize ATV or UTV operation on a highway regardless of whether the city, village, or town has jurisdiction over the highway, but it may not authorize ATV or UTV operation on a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways. It was noted that only the east side of County U could be used because Grand Rapids does not have an ATV ordinance. The speed limit at Juniper Lane and Cty U is 45 mph meaning the section of road does not qualify for ATV use based on Act 87.

Several problems with the implementation of the ATV ordinance were noted. Signage needs to be improved. There was a petition with 73 signatures opposing expanded routes. There have been over 30 complaints and 2 citations.

The Plan Commission is supportive of the restrictions found in the ordinance, but would like improved enforcement of those restrictions. The use of a town constable was mentioned.

The ATV advocates state they are responsible riders, but Grant citizens need to follow all restrictions of the ordinance and make sure others do so. There needs to be more self-enforcement of the ordinance as law enforcement is limited in the Town.

Recommendations include:

- Issuing citations that matter. One or two town constables could help with citations.
- Keep the ordinance, but make sure it is followed and enforced. The Plan Commission is satisfied with ordinance and is not interested in changing it.
- Develop a way for town residents to get from their homes to the routes. Get input from other communities regarding how they are doing this. This may involve a permit. The ad hoc committee should explore giving permits to local residents.
- Get input from other communities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Lee

Plan Commission Secretary

Approved 05/15/2018