

February 15, 2021

Sanitation/Planning & Zoning/Dog Control

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Alan McCoy.

Present: Cedric Schnitzler, Ron Luethe, Alan McCoy, Sharon Folcey, Mary Cook joined us later in the meeting via phone speaker due to technical difficulties with online meeting.

Also Present: Alison Elliott-Sanitation, Zoning, Dog Control Administrator

Possible Corrections and Approval of January 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

A **motion** was made by Ron Luethe and seconded by Sharon Folcey to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2021 meeting. Motion carried: 4-0.

Public Comments: (3 minutes each, one time only). None

Public Hearings:

A petition by Anthony and Ruth Benzing and Chadwick and Heather McTaggart, for a **change of zoning** district from GA-General Agriculture to R3-Rural Residential for parcels of land on Gavel Ave, Sparta, WI, in the NE ¼ -NE ¼ Section 2, T17N, R4W, part of tax parcel # 040-00035-1200, Town of Sparta, Monroe County, 4.5 acres.

Alison presented on behalf of the applicants. The Benzing's have divided a 13.61 acre parcel into One 9.109 acre piece and two 2.25 acre parcels which do not meet the Town of Sparta acreage requirements to remain General Agriculture. The Town requires any parcel less than 3 acres to be zoned Residential. Also the parcels do not meet the minimum width requirement for General Agriculture of 200 feet. Parcels are only 180ft wide.

Alison spoke with Town Supervisor, Clarence Justin, who stated the Town has no objection to this petition since it is a Town requirement.

Discussion was held.

A **motion** was made by Cedric Schnitzler and seconded by Sharon Folcey to approve the change of zoning from GA-General Agriculture to R3-Rural Residential.

Ron Luethe addressed the Chair and made a comment regarding the consistency with the comprehensive plan. This area is designated "Estate Residential" on the Future Land Use Map in the County's Comprehensive Plan which recommends a minimum parcel size of 20 acres. So it would appear that this request would not be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. However it was pointed out that the parent parcel was only 13.61 acres to begin with so the minimum recommended by the Comprehensive Plan would not apply in this particular situation.

Ron Luethe made a **motion**, seconded by Cedric Schnitzler, to amend the original motion to state that although the change of zoning is not technically consistent with the Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the spirit of the Plan, with Monroe County Zoning, other applicable ordinances and surrounding land uses. Motion carried: 4-0.

Original motion as amended carried: 4-0.

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***Mary Cook tried to join the committee meeting via WebEx but technical difficulties with the internet connection were experienced. IT staff were present to work on the situation so that Mary could join the meeting as soon as possible.

Sanitation & Zoning

FEMA Floodplain Mitigation Grant. Alison gave an update. Since the last meeting three properties have been purchased. Two on Jameson Rd and one on Hammer Rd.

Bids for the Demolitions were requested and received with contractor selection being finalized last Friday, February 12, 2021. A total of 8 bids were received for the two properties on Jameson Rd and 7 for the property on Hammer Rd. Kendall Trucking/Plumbing from Kendall was awarded the demolitions for the two properties on Jameson. Johnson and Sons from Warrens was awarded the demolition for the property on Hammer Rd.

Alison will give an update at the next committee meeting with the progress on the demolitions.

DNR municipal flood control grant, Alison gave an update. There are three more properties in the FEMA grant which will be utilizing DNR grant money for the local match. Memorandums of Understanding have been signed with the Towns of Portland, Sparta and Leon. She will now be moving forward with offers to purchase.

Further discussion was held.

Shoreland zoning violation in the Town of Wilton. Alison did not have any further update at this time.

Resolution for CDBG application for Acquisition & Demolition.

Alison informed the Committee about a grant that became available from the Department of Administration, Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR). This grant is open to the 18 counties affected by the 2018 flood event. The total grant amount is for over 15 million. Dane and Vernon County will be receiving at least 80% of this amount, leaving about 3 million left for projects in the remaining 16 counties. Projects must benefit low to moderate income residents. Two properties in the Town of Leon that did not meet the qualifications of the FEMA grant would qualify for this grant. This grant could also be used for two properties that were designated as "alternate" on the FEMA grant. Preliminary estimates for acquisition and demolition of these four properties is about \$484,000. The deadline for application is March 12th. The announcement for approval is anticipated to be by the end of April.

Resolution for CDBG application for Modernization of the Tri-Creek Dam Flood Monitoring Equipment.

Bob Micheel from Monroe County Land Conservation Department was present to explain the application for this grant. Bob explained this project would be to upgrade the flood warning system for the Tri-Creek Dam located above the Village of Norwalk. Bob explained that the flood monitoring system currently works with floats that send a signal to a landline when the water rises to a certain point above and below the dam. The grant proposal is to upgrade the warning equipment using weather stations and cameras. These stations will not only send warning signals but also pictures via cellular connection so there will not be the need for a person to visually verify the conditions during a storm event. (Bob had a presentation to show but due to the technical issues was not able to present.) Cost estimate for this project is \$17,300.

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A **motion** was made by Cedric Schnitzler and seconded by Ron Luethe to approve the resolutions for grant applications for Acquisition & Demolition and the Modernization of the Tri-Creek Dam Flood Monitoring Equipment. Motion Carried: 4.0.

Dog Control:

Play yard turf

Alison stated we have gotten estimates from the County Highway Department to do the prep work for the dog kennel play yards. Alison and Amber met with Larry Rhea and Dave Ohnstad who felt this project was very doable by taking out a few sections of the existing fencing to bring in their equipment, remove dirt and install the gravel base. Their estimate is around \$1500 to \$1600-to prep the site for new turf. The estimates for new turf (2019-2020) quotes were between \$5500 and \$7300 for materials only. There are 3 play yards all different sizes but the total amount being replaced would be approximately 2,706 sq feet. Making estimate for the project between \$7100-\$8900 for all three play yards. Alison reviewed the donation amount that will be rolled over from 2020 and felt that we currently would have enough money from this account. Maintenance would install the turf. Current turf lasted 5-6 years and was purchased used and laid on bare dirt. The new turf would be properly prepped and installed the correct way for durability.

Discussion was held.

Ron Luethe made a **motion**, seconded by Cedric Schnitzler, to approve the purchase as presented for the new turf for the dog shelter play yards. Motion carried: 4-0

A comment was made by a Committee member inquiring if Monroe County has any cat shelters or in the future would consider having a cat shelter for the county. Currently there is only one known shelter in the area exclusively for cats but several others take both cats and dogs. If we would ever build a New Dog Shelter in the future then possibly might build to include for cats.

The IT technician not able to connect the WebEx for meeting attendance on-line. Mary Cook was called by cell phone and was put on speaker. Cedric Schnitzler addressed the Chair and asked if we could take a few minutes to update Mary Cook on issues discussed. Mary was briefed and updated, meeting was resumed.

Annual Reports

Alison referred to the hand-outs for each department in the Committee packets.

Discussion was held for each department.

A **motion** was made by Ron Luethe, seconded by Mary Cook, to approve the annual reports as presented for 2020. Motion carried: 5-0

Financial Report

FINANCIAL REPORT - VOUCHERS - INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS – CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURES – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS – BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Discussion was held and the financial report was reviewed by the Committee.

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December 2020

Department Vouchers		Interdepartmental Transfers		Credit Card Voucher	
Sanitation	14.75	Sanitation		Sanitation	
Zoning	90.72	Zoning		Zoning	
Dog Control BOA	1574.00	Dog Control		Dog Control	
Total	1679.47	0			

January 2021

Department Vouchers		Interdepartmental Transfers		Credit Card Voucher	
Sanitation	392.73	Sanitation		Sanitation	0
Zoning	377.38	Zoning		Zoning	29.45
Dog Control BOA	293.79	Dog Control		Dog Control	187.90
Total	1063.90	0			217.35

Set Date for Next Meeting and Possible Agenda Items.

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 15, 2021 and will start at 6:00 pm in the County Board meeting room in the Justice Center. Possible agenda items: Alison will give an update on the FEMA/DNR grants. Cedric Schnitzler made a request to put relocation of office on the agenda for next month.

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Cedric Schnitzler, seconded by Ron Luethe. Motion carried: 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45p.m.

Recorded by Gretchen Jilek