

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
May 13, 2024 - 6:00pm
Meeting Taped and In-Person

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ruppel called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Cheryl Grove, Steve Bertucci Jr., and Randy Ruppel - Present. Michael Anderson - Absent/Excused. Also present Leah Dompierre, Recording Secretary, and Erin Bertucci, Zoning Administrator.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was in order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Bertucci Jr. to approve the agenda, with support from Grove. Ayes - 3, Nays - 0, Absent - 1. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made by Grove. to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Bertucci Jr. Ayes - 3, Nays - 0, Absent - 1. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was read from Aaron Carr stating his resignation from the Ely Township Planning Commission effective immediately. He has taken a new position out of the area and wishes the Planning Commission all the best for the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

All new approved zoning permits were discussed.

Violation:

-Chicken complaint on County Road CD. Was a new property owner unaware of the Ordinance, got rid of the chickens instead of continuing.

On-going:

-Slawski: Garbage continues to remain on property. One of the campers has areas that have apparent water damage and are falling off. Waiting on Judge Kangas to do final court order.

-Carello/Beaupied: Vehicles continue to be removed. 4-5 in disrepair remain along with the larger vehicles that are unlicensed. Debris is piled all around the property but appears to be in a somewhat organized manner.

-Warlin/Chipman: After remediation last fall of birds being enclosed, they continue to roam onto other properties. If chickens continue to not be contained, will be forced to revoke permit and she must get rid of them. The goats have also been viewed on site and on social media as of late. As goats are considered livestock, and property is in residential area, she is in violation of zoning ordinance. Attorney Zappa will take next steps in enforcing.

Continuing Master Citizen Planner series.

Erin Bertucci, Zoning Administrator

OLD BUSINESS

- A. The US-41 Corridor Meeting Minutes were discussed.
- B. Master Plan Discussion – Draft letter to be written to the Board as a formal notification of Public Hearing in July for final review.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. ORV Ordinance Discussion – Motion by Ruppel, to opt in to the 2024 Marquette County ORV Ordinance amendment and leave all roads in Ely Township as-is. Seconded by Bertucci Jr. Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.
- B. Picnic Table Replacement – Motion by Ruppel to approve up to \$4,000.00 for the purchase of four new picnic tables to replace damaged ones. Seconded by Grove. Ayes – 3, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Laakso stated that at the former Diorite school, there appears to be blankets covering the windows and some sort of cables running to the upstairs. Increased concerns and frustrations as all appropriate agencies have been notified of continued activity and violations at property,

but no actions have been taken. Andrew Slawski has a show cause hearing at the end of May regarding non-payment of fines.

BOARD COMMENTS

Cheryl Grove inquired about progress on Harsila's property. A letter was sent, clean up was supposed to begin, but not much progress has been made. Attorney Zappa was sending another letter to property owner.

Steve Bertucci Jr. commented that Ken Quinnell Jr. appears to be advertising on Facebook to lease campers and portions of his property along the Escanaba River.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm by Chair Ruppel.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Dompierre, Recording Secretary