



Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

7:00 p.m.

101 14th Street, Cloquet, MN 55720

CALL TO ORDER

Terri Lyytinen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Attending: Planning Commission members: Terri Lyytinen, Brittany Kuschel, Philip Demers;
City: Al Cottingham.

Absent: Elizabeth Polling and Michelle Wick.

Others Present: Tim Grahek.

AGENDA ITEMS

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

None.

October 10, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Lyytinen asked for any corrections or additions.

Motion: **Commissioner Kuschel made a motion to approve the Planning Commission meeting minutes from October 10, 2023, Commissioner Demers seconded. (Motion was approved 3-0).**

Zoning Case 23-11: Annual Excavation Permits

Chairperson Lyytinen introduced Zoning Case 23-11 Annual Excavation Permits. She asked Mr. Cottingham to provide an overview. Mr. Cottingham stated this is the annual review and approval of the gravel mining operations within the city. Public Works Director Peterson and he visited all four of the operations on October 24 and found them to be in order. Mr. Grahek, Ulland Brothers, was present to answer any questions the commission may have.

There being no discussion Chairman Lyytinen called for a motion.



Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

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Motion: Commissioner Demers made a motion approving Resolution 23-11 a Resolution Recommending the City Council of Cloquet approve the Annual Excavation Permits for 2024, Commissioner Kuschel seconded. (Motion passed 3-0)

Mr. Cottingham stated this would go to the City Council at their meeting on October 17th at 6:00 pm.

Zoning Case 23-12: City of Cloquet, Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Mobile Storage Containers

Chairperson Lyytinen introduced Zoning Case 23-12: City of Cloquet, Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Mobile Storage Containers and opened the public hearing. She asked Mr. Cottingham to provide an overview. Mr. Cottingham stated the City of Cloquet was proposing an Ordinance amendment pertaining to Mobile Storage Containers in the Farm Residential District. He referenced he had received a phone call from a residence on a 2-acre lot in the Farm Residential District and thought the minimum lot size should be larger or require the containers be screened from public view.

The commission discussed this and concurred that screening, not visible from the public right of way was a good idea.

There being no further discussion Chairman Lyytinen closed the public hearing and called for a motion.

Motion: Commissioner Kuschel made a motion recommending the approval of the Attached Ordinance Relating to Mobile Storage Structures/Shipping Containers in the FR – Farm Residential District for the City of Cloquet, Commissioner Demers seconded. (Motion passed 3-0)

Mr. Cottingham stated this would go to the City Council at their meeting on October 17th at 6:00 pm.

Zoning Case 23-13: City of Cloquet, Sacred Communities and Micro-Unit Dwellings

Chairperson Lyytinen introduced Zoning Case 23-13: City of Cloquet, Sacred Communities and Micro-Unit Dwellings. She asked Mr. Cottingham to provide an overview. Mr. Cottingham stated the City of Cloquet was proposing not to change the Ordinance regarding Sacred Communities and Micro-Unit Dwellings. The State Statute that will take effect on January 1, 2024, states “Unless the municipality has designated sacred communities meeting the requirements of this section as permitted uses, a sacred community meeting the requirements of this section shall be approved and regulated as a conditional use without the application of



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additional standards not included in this section. When approved, additional permitting is not required for individual micro units.” In discussing this among staff it was determined to not change the Ordinance but let the statute regulate them.

The commission agreed with this approach.

Commissioner’s Questions/Comment

Mr. Cottingham stated there needs to be a meeting either in December or January pertaining the new Flood Plain regulations. Currently there are no required items for December and wondered when the commission would like to discuss this.

The consciences of the commission was to meet in January and not December.

Next Meeting

January 9, 2024

The meeting adjourned 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Cottingham, City Planner/Zoning Administrator