

Minutes of the Ward County Planning Commission

March 19, 2020

The meeting of the Ward County Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM. by Co-Chairman Koop with Commissioners Heller, Fjeldahl, Hanson, Livingston, Walter and Wolsky present. Also present were Planning & Zoning Administrator Doug Diedrichsen and Secretary, Tiffany Grosche.

Moved by Comm. Livingston, seconded by Comm. Hanson to approve the Ward County Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes from February 20, 2020. Roll call; all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Hanson, seconded by Comm. Wolsky to open the public hearing at 7:02 PM regarding the Special Use Permit application for Robert Lenertz. Roll call; all voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Lenertz is requesting a special use permit for property located at SENE N2NESE, Sec 9-153-81 for a temporary residential structure for aging relatives to assist them with independent living. Sawyer Township has responded with recommended approval with no further comments or restrictions. The Ward County Water Resource Board returned the application without objection and with the usual recommendations.

No one from the public came forward for or against the Special Use Permit application. The Commission had a brief discussion regarding how long the permit should be allowed.

Moved by Comm. Wolsky, seconded by Comm. Hanson to close the public hearing at 7:16 PM. Roll call; all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wolsky, seconded by Comm. Hanson to approve the Special Use Permit Application.

Moved to amend motion by Comm. Fjeldahl, seconded by Comm. Livingston to review the special use permit every two years. Roll call; all voted yes, except Comm. Wolsky who voted no; motion carried.

Roll call on amended motion; all voted yes; motion carried.

The second item for the Commission's consideration was a plat application for Steve Deaver for property located in NESE, Sec 30-156-86. The application is for a 5.28-acre parcel for residential/pasture. Berthold Township has responded and recommends approval with no further comments or restrictions. The Ward County Water Resource Board returned the plat application without objection, and with the usual recommendations.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Fjeldahl to approve the plat application for Steve Deaver based on finding of fact and usual recommendations. Roll call; all voted yes; motion carried.

Planning & Zoning Administrator, Doug Diedrichsen informed the Commission that he is actively working a plan for future meetings if the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

Comm. Fjeldahl inquired on the progress of the rewriting of County ordinances. Mr. Diedrichsen informed the Commission that he spoke with Consultant, Joel Quanbeck, and was informed that Joel will have a first draft to the County by the end of March.

Comm. Fjeldahl continued and informed the Commission that a Federal Judge ruled in the County's favor regarding the Pietsch Etal vs Ward County case. The plaintiffs have sixty days to appeal the decision.

Comm. Fjeldahl also gave a report of the NACo meeting that he attended in Washington, DC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Co-Chairman Koop at 7:50 PM.

Chairperson, Ward County Planning Commission

Attest:

Ward County Auditor, Secretary