

Athens Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2020

Opening

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on October 15, 2020.

Planning Commissioners Present

Dave Henderson, Jack Cole, Dave Beckstrom, Dan Woodfill, Cindy Anderson, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter

Guests Present

Todd Dooley, Lynn Harp, Deanne Biggins, Jason Ross

Approval of Minutes

M/S Dave Henderson/Cindy Anderson to approve the September meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

None.

Public Hearing

Interim Use Permit request 20-03 for Todd Dooley

The permit request is for dirt and class 5 stockpiles for excavating purposes, and for bringing millings in; also to have a concrete and asphalt pile. This is for a family excavating business on his A/R zoned 5-acre parcel. All equipment is stored in a large accessory building.

Questions were raised about screening: there is currently a berm along the road and they want to plant additional trees.

Resident Deanne Biggins was concerned about traffic issues and Dave Henderson inquired about hours of operation.

Dave Beckstrom read the conditions associated with the IUP. Three additional conditions were added which were as follows:

-Hours no longer than 7AM to 7PM

-No Sunday work hours

-Applicant to repair road if it is damaged due to operation

M/S Dave Henderson/Jack Cole to approve the request for the IUP if it follows existing ordinances and the conditions including those just added. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Rum River Wild and Scenic ordinance update:

There was some discussion about the difference between our ordinance which seems random and Isanti county's ordinance.

M/S Jack Cole/Cindy Anderson to table the discussion until next month's meeting as Mike Jungbauer was not in attendance.

Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

P&Z has received inquiries about opening a small recycling center (scrap yard) in Athens township. Questions were raised whether this would even be allowed by our current ordinances. This proposal was already turned down by Isanti county. Consensus by the board was that we are not interested in having this kind of facility in Athens township. This type of business should be located in a commercial area, not near Ag land. There could be many issues including pollution and battery disposal.

Miscellaneous

Commission members were given updated Zoning maps.

Adjournment

M/S Dave Henderson/Cindy Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter