

Athens Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2024

Opening

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 18, 2024 and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Planning Commissioners Present

Todd Christensen, Marlys Balfany(online), Jack Cole, Jason Ross, AJ Ondrey, Dean Thompson, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter and Mike Jungbauer

Guests Present

A few residents attended.

Approval of Minutes

M/S Jason Ross/Jack Cole to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

Chris Vogt with the welding shop received his estimated property tax statement for his new building that is being built. They are over 18,000. He has spoken to the assessor's office and they are comparable with businesses in Isanti which have sewer and water etc. Todd and Mike will speak with Elisha Long before February 3rd.

Jason Ross spoke as a resident, not as a board member. He would like to expand to the next phase of his removal of sand and gravel on his property. A discussion was held on whether to approve all

of the remainder of the project or continue in phases. Mike will check the original proposal to see what the terms were.

Public Hearing

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

- Mike would like to finalize the kinds of business that we would like in the retail area. He has had lots of calls regarding the farm that is for sale next to the Green Barn Garden Center. Dave Henderson suggested that a PH be scheduled to see what the neighbors would like to see there. Mike presented a proposal for the service road that needs to be put in. Jason Ross will speak with Craig Bjorklund about the road running along his property line and a possible easement.

-We reviewed sizes for accessory buildings talked about at the November meeting. Mike will finish up with paperwork for this project.

-A discussion was held regarding zoning for the northern commercial district. It regarded zoning a lot for a specific business such as a gas station, to eliminate the need for IUP's or CUP's. The consensus of the board was to keep the IUP's. If a gas station is inquiring, we would like them to offer groceries and also fishing and hunting licenses.

Mike will be on vacation for two weeks in February. It was decided to have a February meeting and Mike may be back. He will ask Chris to attend the meeting to address the matter of the

service road. Mike will invite the neighbors that are involved to get their input on the matter.

M/S Jack Cole/Marlyns Balfany to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM.
Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter