

**Athens Township Planning Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 16, 2024**

**Opening**

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 16, 2024 and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Planning Commissioners Present**

Todd Christensen, Marlys Balfany, Jack Cole, Jason Ross, AJ Ondrey, Billy Larson, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter and Mike Jungbauer

**Guests Present**

Several residents attended.

**Approval of Minutes**

M/S Jason Ross/ Billy Larson to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Open Forum**

Troy Brummer presented P&Z with a request for a variance to add a 12x28 addition to the front of his home at 25484 Rum River Drive NW. The house is already too close to the road and a practical difficulty does not exist which is necessary for a variance. P&Z threw out some suggestions and he will consider adding to the back of the house, then return to P&Z.

Cory Bartell had contacted Mike about building an accessory building before the house but he did not attend the meeting. Ordinance currently states that the house must be built first. Commission members discuss possible bonding for people

requesting such a thing. Another option is to put living quarters in the pole building.

### **Public Hearing**

No public hearings this month.

### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

-June public hearings will include the accessory building size and chapter 20 clarifications on animal restrictions and the 4 per 40.

-Limit for accessory buildings used for business is 2500 sq feet on five acres or less, increasing 500 sq feet with each additional acre of land. The maximum size is 10,000 sq feet.

-It was suggested that the limit for dogs be three per household unless and IUP for a private kennel is obtained. Also, paperwork for vaccines would need to be provided. Different spots in the ordinance need to agree.

4 per 40 was once again discussed along with building rights. Also obtaining extra building rights from others was discussed. A subdivision must be platted for more houses than the allowed with 4 per 40.

M/S Jack Cole/Marlys Balfany to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter