

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Planning Commission

July 25, 2018

Avon Township Hall (16881 Queens Road, Avon)

**Call to Order:** Chair Ken Mergen called to order the meeting of the Avon Township Planning Commission at 7:00 PM in the Main Chamber of the Town Hall.

**Pledge:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Present – Will Huston, Ken Mergen, and Sheldon Tschida. Absent: Steve Saupe. Also present; Marion Gondringer, Deputy Clerk.

**Approval of Agenda:** Maciejewski CUP was added to the agenda. Huston moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Huston moved to approve the minutes from the June, 2018 meeting as presented. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public Hearings:** Blonigen road setback variance. Public Hearing has been cancelled.

## **Business:**

1. **Blonigen Variance:** Mr. Craig Blonigen requests a variance for his property at 18732 367<sup>th</sup> St., Avon (MN). He wants to construct an addition and garage on his current home. It would be closer to both 367<sup>th</sup> Street and 188<sup>th</sup> Avenue than currently allowed by ordinance. Both roads are public roads. Although 367<sup>th</sup> is privately maintained, both still fall within the parameters of township road regulations.

Huston moved to set a public hearing at 7:10 P.M. on August 29, 2018 for a variance to construct an addition onto the home that would be 24 feet closer to the edge of 188<sup>th</sup> Avenue than is currently permitted by ordinance. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion took place concerning a request by Blonigen for variance of 24 feet from 367<sup>th</sup> Street for the same addition request. Huston moved to set a public hearing at 7:12 P.M. on August 29, 2018 for a variance to construct an addition onto the home that would be 32 feet closer to the edge of 367<sup>th</sup> Street than is currently permitted by ordinance. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. **MOU / Ordinance conflict** in handling Provisional Use Permitting (*see <http://www.avontownship.org/ordinances>, Land Use Ordinance #4 (4.18 p 13) & MOU*). Motion by Huston to table the discussion of the ordinance conflict until more information is provided by Stearns County. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Road Maintenance Schedule:** Discussion included the consideration of a request by the supervisors to address the possibility of the planning commission suggesting a schedule for major road maintenance. Discussion included concern for road condition, available funding, cost projections and levy. The Planning Commission is open to addressing this need.

- 4. **Verizon Cell Tower:** Co Rd 52 (On hold as of July 24)
- 5. **Norway Road update:** MNDOT will add signs as necessary, at no cost to the Township, including chevron signs on the 90 degree turns.
- 6. Adding a **“Citizen Comments”** item to future agendas: The Planning Commission prefers to keep this informal without a specific agenda item for citizen comments.
- 7. **Enterprise Contributions:** no ideas were suggested.
- 8. **Maciejewski CUP:** A lot split is being pursued. The County is proceeding with the process of addressing the request. There has been no movement on this at the Township level.
- 9. **Recreation support:** Stanley Streit arrived during the meeting and approached the members of the Planning Commission to consider a request for funding for the St. Anna Ball Club. Streit explained that Avon Township children use the ball field. The Planning Commission recommends adding this request to the agenda for the Supervisor Meeting in August.

**Announcements/Reports:**

- 1. **Ebnet Garage on Red Maple Drive:** A garage has been erected that is 10 feet from the edge of the Road and is therefore non-compliant with Avon Township road regulations. Stearns County is addressing the fact that this is an unpermitted building. The planning commission members discussed whether the Township should pursue the issue of the non-compliance of the township road set-back. Mergen moved to recommend to the Supervisors to send a letter to Mr. Ebnet advising him of the Township road set-back violation if the county does not address the issue. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Huston moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Second by Tschida. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is August 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marion Gondringer, Deputy Clerk

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Approval:**

\_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Planning Commission Chair – signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Planning Commission Chair – print