

Town of Horicon Planning Board

Minutes of July 27, 2011

Members Present: Bill Bruce, Doug Paton, Harry Balz, Jim Remington Alternates: Georgia McMeekin, Matt Simpson

Members Absent: Mike Raymond

Others Present: Town Board member Bob Olson,

Guests Present: Dan Smith, Martin Meade, Mark Wilson, Bob Higgins

Pledge

The regular meeting of the Planning Board was called to order by Chair, Bill Bruce at 7:00 PM. Harry Balz made a motion to accept the minutes as written 2nd by Doug Paton All Ayes. Bill Bruce stated that Georgia McMeekin will be a voting member due to Mike Raymond's absence.

Public Hearing:

File # 2011-06 CU Tax Map 88.14-1-3 Charles (Jack) and Eleanor Higgins seeking a Conditional Use for firewood sales and sign on parcel located at 6421 State Route 8. Bill Bruce asked if anyone would like to speak regarding this project. Dan Smith stated that he is a neighbor and is in favor of the use as it fits into the character of the neighborhood. Mark Wilson stated that he is not against the project but selling is one thing and processing is another and there should be restrictions on cutting after dark. Bob Higgins asked if Horicon had a noise ordinance adding that Bob Olson feels the selling of camp wood is part of rural life. Bill Bruce stated that this is a conditional use application for in the LC-10 acres zone. Jim Remington agreed with Mark Wilson about the time limitations. Lengthy Discussion ensued regarding existing zoning regulations. Georgia McMeekin stated there could be safety concerns with traffic, parking, abandoned vehicles and boats on the property. Doug Paton stated that the property is residential along with some commercial entities. Bob Olson asked if the Conditional Use application fee was \$100. Bill Bruce stated that the Town Board sets the fees and the Conditional Use application fee is \$100 and if the Town Board does not want regulations then the Town Board can change the regulations at any time, but when this board gets an application then this board must act upon it. Being no further comments or questions, Harry Balz made a motion to close the public hearing, 2nd by Doug Paton. All Ayes.

Unfinished Business:

File # 2011-06 CU Tax Map 88.14-1-3 Charles (Jack) and Eleanor Higgins seeking a Conditional Use for firewood sales and sign on parcel located at 6421 State Route 8. Bill Bruce read the regulations regarding Conditional Use applications. Harry Balz stated that the application is for selling/cutting of wood. The applicant stated that they intend to operate year round. Discussion ensued regarding forestry use. Harry Balz

stated that he would like to see some restrictions as this is a noisy operation and the applicant could come back to the board in three (3) years and if the property sells, the conditional use ceases. Gary McMeekin stated that there is a difference between camp wood and fire wood. Harry Balz stated that the fees are adopted by the Town Board and restated his position of approval with conditions making a motion to approve the Conditional Use stating hours of operation to be 8am to 5 pm 7 days a week not carried on past 7 PM, a three (3) year review with no additional money to review, 2nd by Doug Paton. Georgia McMeekin stated that she sees a problem with sundays as this is a noisy business in a residential area. Doug Paton agreed that the neighbors must be considered and the applicant must be sensitive to any complaint. Jim Remington stated that he would like to add that the applicant cannot saw on Sundays but selling seven (7) days a week would be appropriate. Harry Balz agreed with Jim Remington's conditions as did Doug Paton. Harry Balz made a motion to approve the Conditional Use stating hours of operation to be 8am to 5 pm 7 days a week not carried on past 7 PM, a three (3) year review with no additional money to review adding that the applicant cannot saw on Sundays, 2nd by Doug Paton. The board was polled Harry Balz Aye, Doug Paton Aye, Georgia McMeekin Aye, Jim Remington Aye, Bill Bruce Aye.

Board Privilege: None

Being no further business before the board, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted
Christine Hayes