

Empire Township Planning Commission, Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2021

The Empire Township Planning Commission was called to order by Tom Kaldunski at 8:00 PM.

Present were: Tom Kaldunski, Trent Larson, Jared Sachs, Bob Bjerke, Doug Clark, Jane Kansier, Brad Fisher, Charles Seipel-Teng, and liaison Jamie Elvestad.

The Planning Commission reviewed a Metes and Bounds Subdivision Application from D.L Peterson Family Partnership. The proposed subdivision will divide an existing farm parcel at 1850 170th Street. The portion of the parcel that contains the farm residence will be a new parcel and separate from the remaining agricultural land. It was noted that there are three building rights on the existing parcel. These building rights will remain on the parcel with the ag land.

Jared Sachs made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed parcel split at 1850 170th Street. Trent Larson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

It was reported that a property owner has been sent a notice regarding a violation of Ordinance No. 460-A (Swimming Pool Ordinance) at 19760 Burlington Path. The above ground pool on the property does not have the required 5' fence around the pool area. It was noted that the permit handout for pools notes that above ground pools with sidewalls over 4' in height do not need a fence as long as access to the pool is removed when not attended to. The property owners provided examples of pool ordinances from around the area, some of which do not require fences for above ground "storable" pools and some that require a 4' high fence.

After some discussion, it was the consensus of Planning Commission that the property owners be given until November 1st to have the pool removed or secured per ordinance. The Commission will review the requirements of Ordinance 460-A this winter and notify the property owners of any revisions.

Discussion was held on future Highway 3 projects, including the bike path connecting Empire Township to Farmington.

The Planning Commission Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.