

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes May 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Kaldunski at 8:00 p.m.

Present were: Tom Kaldunski, Jim Hagerty, Trent Larson, Jared Sachs, Jane Kansier, Charles Seipel and liaison Ed Gerten

A representative from Techo Bloc was present for the site plan review of their proposed site of operation at 4375 170th Street West. The Commission reviewed a memo regarding the site plan. The proposed operation will involve the wholesale of landscaping block and share the property at the 170th Street address with Rock Hard, formerly Hedberg. Techo Bloc will occupy the eastern portion of the site. Deliveries and customers will be directed to the second entrance at the front of the property. Jane Kansier referenced a map showing the proposed layout of the site including a diesel tank, office trailer, product and unloading areas, sign and forklift storage. It was noted that currently the ordinance allows only one sign per primary structure. Since there is already a primary structure on the property, Techo Bloc will need to apply for a variance for the proposed sign. The proposed sign must be located 10' back from the road right of way. It was reported that the hours of operation will be from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. The representative from Techo Bloc will look into the possible need for outdoor lighting at the site. If a gate will be installed at a later date, they will need a fence permit.

A motion by Trent Larson to recommend that the Techo Bloc site review application be forwarded to the Town Board for approval. Seconded by Jim Hagerty. Motion passed 4-0.

Greg and Charlotte Feely were present to discuss the proposed road access from CSAH 66 to the Feely East and Feely West proposed solar gardens. It was noted by the Commission that a temporary access for construction would come from an existing field approach to where the two solar gardens meet. This will be reduced to a shorter approach for maintenance of the power interconnect structures. The permanent approach will be located on the far west side of the property.

Chanda Sour from the Watt Munisotaram was present to discuss the upcoming celebration to be held there from May 24th through the 26th. The event will bring in monks from around the world and they expect between 1,500 to 2,000 people will attend. Temple representatives have been in contact with the Dakota County Sheriff's Department about security at the event and they will also have medical personnel present. The event will include music in the evenings. The music will be played until about 10:00 p.m., however they would like the option to extend the music to 11:00 p.m. if there is still a large turnout that evening. The Commission recommended that a letter be sent to residents that live near the temple, notifying them of the event and the potential for music until 11:00 p.m. that Saturday evening. The letter should include contact information for a representative from the temple that will be available for

residents that have questions and a copy of the letter should be sent to the Township Clerk. The proposed event will also be brought to the Town Board for their notification.

The Commission discussed landscaping bonds for the proposed solar farms on the Feely property. It was the consensus of the Commission that because the need for the operator to maintain landscaping is stated in the IUP, a two year landscaping bond for the proposed projects will be sufficient.

It was reported that the Town Board has set the application deadline for the vacant Planning Commission seat for May 10th. The township has received two applications. It is anticipated that the applications will be reviewed by the Town Board and a candidate selected.

The Planning Commission reviewed the proposed nuisance ordinance. Some recommendations were made; including the removal of the sections pertaining to the possession and consumption of alcohol on public property. The Commission recommended that the proposed ordinance be forwarded to the Town Board and the Township's attorney for final review.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.