

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Richard Bresnahan, Ken Mergen, Kurt Marthaler, Rick Fischbach, Jim Thares, City Clerk/Administrator, Stephen Saupe, Avon Township Clerk

Also present: John Grutsch, Mayor, City of Avon and John Merdan, Avon Township Board

ABSENT: None

Call to order by Richard Bresnahan at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

A special recognition and thank you was noted to Lowell Rushmeyer for his many years of service on the Avon Township Planning Commission and the Joint Planning Board.

Review/Approve Minutes from April 09, 2012

Motion by Rick Fischbach to approve minutes as presented

Second Kurt Marthaler

Motion Passed Unanimously

Appoint Chairperson

Motion by Ken Mergen to appoint Rick Fischbach as Chairperson of the Joint Planning Board from February 2013 to February 2014

Second Richard Bresnahan

Discussion about previous service as Chairperson by Rick and others.

Motion was withdrawn by Ken Mergen with Richard Bresnahan (Second) agreeing

Motion by Rick Fischbach to appoint Kurt Marthaler as Chairperson of the Joint Planning Board from February 2013 to February 2014.

Second by Ken Mergen

Motion passed unanimously

Scott Spanier Property – 33633 Poverty Point Drive

Discussion about the proposed Spanier property rezoning and plat. City Clerk/Administrator Thares reviewed a map illustrating the proposed split/plat. He said that this item is not officially up for action at this meeting since the Spaniers are still making an adjustment to the plat boundaries so the newly created lot will have a wider footprint on the public street (Poverty Point Drive). City Clerk/Administrator Thares said that per the County's letter they are asking that the JPB hold a public hearing on the rezoning and the plat at the same meeting in the future. Members discussed the split coordinates and the possible location of septic and drain-field areas. The process was reviewed and it was suggested that Stearns County be consulted for the next steps in the process and the official application procedures. City Clerk/Administrator Thares said he would review the procedural steps with Stearns County staff.

Discuss Rausch Property - 34122 County Road 9

City Clerk/Administrator Thares noted the language in the Orderly Annexation Agreement – specifically the paragraph identifying the Rausch parcel and the five-year timeline for annexation. He told the members that he had provided cost information to the contractor who is helping Mr. Rausch with municipal utility hookup estimates. He also said that he did not expect any action on this item tonight. Members discussed the island

status of the parcel noting that the goal is to eliminate island plots of land (land surrounded by the City and still under Township jurisdiction). Members discussed the possibility that the Rausch's may want to obtain an alternative to their septic system in the near future and suggested that it would make sense to formally approve the annexation at this meeting. City Clerk/Administrator Thares said he had not prepared a resolution but if the members wanted to act on it they could proceed with the intent that it will be approved via a resolution.

Motion by Ken Mergen to approve Annexation of the Neil and Roseann Rausch property, 34122 County Road 9, into the City.

Second by Rich Fischbach

Motion unanimously approved.

Discuss Parcel near Lake Anna (the Lake)

City Clerk/Administrator Thares reviewed the situation of this isolated parcel near Lake Anna. A prospective buyer of the property, Chris Denn, is interested in getting a road and private utilities into the site. City Clerk/Administrator Thares noted that it has limited access rights and would need a septic system and drainfield to be developed for a new home on the parcel. Mr. Denn was at the meeting and verified those statements as well. He also said he would be attending the City Council meeting in Avon on Monday, March 4, to discuss the street situation with the Council. Members talked about the divided status of this site and the lack of a good access to the site. City Clerk/Administrator Thares noted that approximately 20,000 sq. ft. of the 2-acre parcel is in the City while the rest of it is in the Township. No action taken on this item.

Avon City Wellhead Protection Plan and Process

The City of Avon's recently approved Wellhead Protection Plan, Part I, was discussed. The next step is to complete Part II by August 2014. City Clerk/Administrator Thares reviewed the graphic materials denoting the Wellhead Protection Zone and the 1-year and 10-year time of travel areas around the two active City wells (Unique Well # 696861 and Unique Well # 696862). He continued saying that the City will hold a public information meeting as part of the regular April 1st City Council meeting to review the plan and next steps. The City will be asking the Township to collaborate in identifying known or suspected potential water supply contamination sources that could originate outside of the City limits. No action taken.

Other

Discussion on the City compost site; will it be operated similar to last year – have open hours for users? John Grutsch, Mayor, City of Avon, said he believed at this time it would be operated similar to 2012. Township members suggested that the City send an invoice for the amount of \$2,000 for the two seasons; 2012 and 2013. City Clerk/Administrator Thares said he would send that. Members discussed the County SCORE program and past experiences with it. Members discussed the potential of getting a dumpster via the Township SCORE grant and placing it at the compost site to facilitate dumping of non-compost items in an approved container - instead of in the yard and garden waste.

Members discussed the Mr. Denn's proposal as well as the review process and the quirky geographic nature of the isolated parcel again and suggested that the City update the Township Clerk on any decisions that are made at the Council meeting. It was also suggested that – if possible - the Wellhead Protection Plan information be made available to the Township before the Township's Annual Meeting on March 12, 2013.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. by Richard Bresnahan.

Second by Rick Fischbach.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jim Thares

City Clerk/Administrator, City of Avon/Avon Joint Planning Board