

STILLWATER TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2019

Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairperson Sheila-Marie Untiedt, Supervisors Rod Hunter, Tim Sinclair, Bonnie Haines and Mike McMahon, Clerk Kathy Schmoeckel, Planner Merritt Clapp-Smith, Treasurer Marsha Olson, Chief of Police Steve Nelson and Park Manager Jackie Garofalo.

7:00 P.M. – Public Hearing – Hands Variance

Pursuant to notice in the Stillwater Gazette and to surrounding property owners, a Public Hearing was held to consider a request from Douglas and Diane Hands for a variance to the 18 foot height limit for accessory structures on parcels less than 5 acres in size in order to construct a garage that will be 26 feet tall at one end. The new garage will replace a garage that burned down last year.

Made a part of the record are the names and addresses of attendees (12) at the Hearing.

Chairperson Sheila-Marie Untiedt opened the public hearing and introduced Planner Merritt Clapp-Smith who gave a brief overview of the application.

There were the following questions and comments:

- Doug Hands – They believe that the old garage burned down because a mouse had chewed through the fuel line in an old Lincoln Continental and ignited the carburetor. They would like to build an art studio on a new second story. They are also looking for attic storage space.
- Rod Hunter – What is the height of the house? Hands – About 30 feet. Hunter – So this would be shorter than the house.
- Tim Sinclair – We you able to recover the Lincoln? Hands – No.
- Laura McClean – They live at the end of the street and have no issue at all with this. We do not see this. This would be in keeping with the house as a carriage house.
- Mike McMahon – Is this the same size? Diane Hands – The old carriage house was sold with another parcel and we no longer own that. McMahon – The same footprint? Hands – Yes.
- Sheila-Marie Untiedt – Read a letter of support from Michelle LaBrosse Nelson.
- Lily Jill – They are also neighbors and support this.
- Robert Geisen – If this is approved, does it set a precedent for other variance approvals? Untiedt – We would be looking at each case individually. Geisen – The historic nature of buildings can be achieved at a lower height. Clapp-Smith – You should always be aware that you may be setting a precedent, but each case tends to be unique.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

7:10 P.M. – Regular Meeting

1. AGENDA – M/S/P McMahon/Hunter moved to adopt the agenda as written. (5 ayes)
2. MINUTES – M/S/P Haines/Sinclair moved to approve the April 11, 2019 Stillwater Town Board Meeting minutes as written. (5 ayes)
3. ATTORNEY –
 - a. 109th Street Update – The wrong addresses had been assigned to houses along this street. A letter has been sent out to notify the one resident that their house number has been changed.
 - b. Parcel South of Highway 36 – We cannot weigh in on this proposed development since we do not allow commercial property. The developer was encouraged to look into annexation before pursuing this further.
4. ENGINEER –
 - a. Arcola Trail – A part of this road is eroding. The engineer is looking into solutions including a possible berm.
 - b. 94th & Neal – The engineer is looking at boring out the culvert. Work will also have to be done on the road.
5. TREASURER –
 - a. Report given.
 - b. Checks and Claims – Checks and Claims #43968 through #43990 were approved for payment.
6. PLANNER –
 - a. Hands Variance – Planner Clapp-Smith reviewed the findings per her memorandum dated May 2, 2019.
M/S/P Hunter/McMahon moved to approve the Hands Variance with the following conditions:
 1. The final plans shall be in substantial compliance with the site and building plans submitted to the Township on April 16,, 2019.
 2. The applicant shall obtain a building permit for the accessory building.
 3. The applicant shall maintain the existing vegetative screening between the structure and the roadway.
 4. The applicant shall pay all fees and escrows associated with this application.
(5 ayes)
 - b. Lynsky Subdivision –The Planning Commission had held a Public Hearing on this application at their meeting last week. Planner Clapp-Smith reviewed the application and findings. All criteria have been met. The Township Engineer and the applicant’s engineer have resolved the issues noted.
M/S/P Hunter/Sinclair moved to approve the Lynsky Subdivision subject to the conditions of the Planner and the Planning Commission. (5 ayes)

7. PARCHETA WATER SKI PERMIT – Mary Parcheta was present to request renewal of her permit for a water ski course on Loon Lake. Chief of Police Steve Nelson reported that he has received no complaints. M/S/P Sinclair/Hunter moved to authorize the Chair to sign the slalom course permit. (5 ayes)

8. CHIEF OF POLICE –

- a. Report given. Five burning permits were issued in April; one was a running fire permit. A spring burning ban was put into place on 4/19/19 and it could be four weeks before it is lifted. No dogs were impounded in April. There were a total of 111 complaints received for the month of April.
- b. Dog Licenses - Dog license renewals are now coming in with three year license fees. Two warning citations were issued and both responded.
- c. Bear Sighting – The first sighting was in the 13000 block of Dellwood Road on 4/14/19 and the second one was on 4/22/19 in the 12000 block of Dellwood Road.
- d. Road Restrictions – Road restrictions were removed on May 7th.
- e. Annual CUP Checks – Checks are complete. One CUP holder has yet to schedule an inspection that would complete the report.
- f. Speed Sign Costs – Chief Nelson provided a quote for a sign. He had checked with Washington County who told him that they only install these signs in an area where there is a sudden decrease in the speed limit. We would be allowed to use this sign on Stonebridge for two weeks and then it would have to be moved for several weeks again. We would need a permit from the County to do this. They have these electronic signs that we could borrow for short term use. The consensus of the Board was to borrow one from the County and see how effective it is.
- g. Arcola Heights Park – Signs have been put up. Chief Nelson has been at the park every day (except rain days) since and spoke to everyone there about taking care of their park by calling in any illegal activity.
- h. Special Events Permits – The Stillwater Half Marathon will take place on May 25 starting at 7am until noon. State Patrol will be stationed at key intersections for safety.
- i. Tannerite Incident – Residents had a party on 4/26 and they were shooting high powered rifles in a location that violated Ordinance #100. They were shooting at Tannerite Targets which caused several explosions that were heard and felt in the city. The suspects were located and four people were arrested.

9. PLANING COMMISSION ORIENTATION MATERIALS – Robyn Stoller and Robert Geisen were present to discuss ways to better bring new Planning Commissioners up to speed. Robyn Stoller had a Power Point Presentation discussing the various sources available. They will make up a letter with links for training materials that can be sent out to new commissioners.

10. TREE PLANTINGS ON PARCEL ACROSS NORELL AVENUE FROM TOWN HALL – Ken Heifert was present to discuss his request that trees be planted on this parcel which adjoins his property to act as a visual and sound buffer. We will check with Washington County regarding sight lines from the road and the Park Committee will be asked to see what can be done. Mr. Heifert said he is already planting trees on his own property.

11. PARK MANAGER - Jackie Garofalo was present. The Park Committee will meet on Monday at 6:00 at Arcola Heights Park and then go to Little Carnelian Park if time allows.

(Rod Hunter left.)

The issues with Arcola Heights Park were discussed. A meeting should be planned with the neighbors.

12. WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION EASEMENT – Washington County has been approached by a landowner seeking to place his 52 acre property into a conservation easement through their Land and Water Legacy Program. It is located in the County’s Top Ten High Priority protection areas called the Silver Twin Corridor.

13. MANNING AND HIGHWAY 36 PROJECT – Washington County is looking for a letter of support to be sent to Representative Mary Murphy, House Capital Investment Committee Chair, for the Manning Avenue and Highway 36 project.

M/S/P McMahon/Haines moved to authorize the Chair to sign the letter of support for this project. (4 ayes)

14. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Clerk_____

Chairperson_____

Approved_____