

Crow Wing Township Planning Commission Meeting July 11, 2022, 6:00 PM

Commission Members Present: Brad Arnold (Chair), and Commissioners Linda Schuety, David Nelson, Dan Lee, Tucker Schuety (Township Chairman) and Amanda Peterson (Planning and Zoning Administrator), & Sue Kern (Township Clerk). Brad called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearings: None.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda: None.

Open Forum: None.

Approval of Minutes: It was noted a slight typo, should read Justin and not Jason. Linda made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Dan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

New Business: Camping and Ordinance Amendment: Amanda presented a Draft Ordinance No. 05-22, amending Articles 10 and 20 of the Crow Wing Township Land Use Ordinance regarding camping. The intent of the language is to address camping, standards, and definitions. Amanda read the draft out loud, and copies were distributed to the 15 residents in attendance. A copy of this draft is in the agenda packet. The intent is to make sure camping and campers are allowed for recreational use and not restricted but to clarify there are limits to that including long term occupation without septic, large quantities of unlicensed vehicles, etc. is to be governed by language in the accepted ordinance. There was considerable discussion amongst the planning and zoning commission along with the residents present. All residents were given opportunities to speak to the ordinance. The ordinance includes properties with principle structures as well as those without principle structures. There was considerable discussion to the number of units acceptable, the number of days in a calendar year, septic requirements, including units allowable in conjunction with a land use permit for construction purposes and storage of units. Again, the intent is not to restrict recreational camping but to prohibit squatting. The enforcement of the ordinance would be complaint driven. The intent is for ordinance language to provide law enforcement with more authority to remove squatters or those breaking the law. State statute states 4 units is acceptable, whereas 5 units is a camping site, with 14 days being the length of time. Brad recapped discussed points as Article 20.2 A. not having a quantity, 20.3 D should remain, and 20.4 B should be 24 months. Amanda questioned 20.2 C if it should read "1" and it was decided that it would as other aspects of the ordinance cover unlicensed units. She further questioned if ordinance includes residential zones. The Planning Commission agreed Amanda should bring back revised verbiage for their approval.

Enforcement Ordinance Amendment: There was no draft language for the commission to review. Amanda is working with the attorney to make revisions and the matter will be brought before the township board when ready.

Old Business: Ream Complaint: Brad has been unable to connect with the resident.

Jillson Complaint: Site visit showed major improvement. There are 3 more items to be addressed. The progress has been measurable. There is a hearing tomorrow. Amanda has had two site visits.

The Anderson Schuety septic noncompliance was discussed. The property has been vacated. A note on the door will be placed stating no one is to occupy until the septic has been completed and installed. They are working on getting a deed completed. They are back on track to doing things right and correspondence is happening with Amanda.

Jackson Complaint: This is regarding the accumulation of campers and folks on the property. Amanda stated a letter had been sent to the owners. They have been corresponding. The owner was present at the meeting. Mrs. Jackson stated her daughter, Krista, told her the sheds would be removed. It was explained that a shed present for more than 14 days is required to have a permit. There was discussion regarding the lack of an entry permit and definitions of that permit were explained to Mrs. Jackson. There has been a lot of traffic in and out of the property. Location of the entry permit must be approved by the Road Supervisor and possible construction including gravel and a culvert may be needed for drainage may be required. It was explained that if the traffic went back to once a year, a permit would not be needed. Because attention has been called to this matter, the Planning Commission will need to do an inspection, but they would call first to set up a time to see that the buildings have been removed along with the campers. Amanda will be in touch and coordinate the site visit. Residents spoke up and stated the campers plus one very large 50' trailer were present on the property. This was the first time Amanda heard about such a large trailer being present. It would require a septic. Mrs. Jackson does not get to that section of her property often. There is a sense of urgency for the inspection to happen very soon. One resident commented someone was on his property after 11 pm and other commented the Sheriff's department has told them to secure their belongings and that two people had been removed with active warrants from the property by the Sheriff's department. One resident has found uncapped needles along the road and brought them to the meeting as evidence. Residents do not feel safe and do not want this in the neighborhood. Mrs. Jackson also wants to feel safe as well. Amanda will follow up with law enforcement.

Bigwood Enterprises: Brad did an inspection. Garbage has been removed. Storage material has been consolidated and organized as much as possible. Vehicles have been relocated.

Traxler Complaint: Amanda inspected the property, and the matter has been cleaned up and taken care of.

Deason Complaint: Amanda stated there would be semiannual visits to check on the trees.

Owned Storage 371: Brad said he did a site inspection at England's and stated that they installed the fence, planted the deciduous trees and it looked like a good job. They are watering the trees and maintaining the site. Carol has not called with any complaints. Brad thought they should be able to go forward with the permitting and the project. Brad will double check on the placement of the additional 11 coniferous trees further back on the property.

A resident expressed concerns on Ron & Colleen's property off St. Mathias and mentioned abandoned cars. Brad and Amanda will follow up.

Chad Jillson came at the end of the meeting. Brad complimented him on the clean-up and hard work he has done. More work needs to happen on the SE corner and a motor home needs to be removed in the next couple of days.

A CUP for Battalion Holdings LLC was signed by Brad and the Clerk.

P&Z Administrator's Report: There were no new land permits which is down from last year.

Adjournment: Linda made a motion to adjourn. Dan seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

