

CORINNA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday July 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
Corinna Township Hall
9801 Ireland Avenue NW, Annandale, MN

Minutes

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance was at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Chuck Carlson; Vice-Chair John Dearing; Supervisor Larry Smith; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Jean Just; Corinna Planning and Zoning Administrator Ben Oleson.

Absent: Clerk/Treasurer Mary Barkley Brown.

Others in Attendance: Evan Carlson – IPS Solar; Andy Stahlman – IPS Solar; Cory Schueler; Stephanie Warwas; Terry Warwas; Mariah Johnson; Freya Johnson.

Approve or Amend Agenda, Town Board Meeting, July 16, 2019: A motion was made by Dearing, seconded by Smith, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Copies of the previous Meeting Minutes and this Meeting's Agenda are available for those attending this meeting.

Approve or Amend Minutes, Town Board Meeting, July 2, 2019: A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Dearing, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of July 2, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance Outlook Report: Reviewed. Carlson made a motion to purchase a 72" Brushcat from Bobcat. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Requests to be on the Agenda: Stephanie Warwas addressed the Town Board.

Mr. & Mrs. Warwas approached the board regarding the requirement to tar a road for a sub-division. They would like to split their back lot in two, one would contain their shed and the other would be sold to their daughter. The board discussed options such as lot line adjustment which would not require pavement or the possibility of petitioning for the road to be tarred with all residences agreeing to the assessment. At this time the board did not feel they could approve the sub-division without pavement.

Other Business:

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1. Planning and Zoning Administrator's Report: Town Board will Review Items from July 9 Planning Commission Meeting as Required;
Application: Ordinance Amendments (various)
Applicant: Corinna Township
 - Changes that would bring the road setbacks (local, county, state and federal) required in the B-2 district back in line with what is required in Wright County's ordinance. These were inadvertently increased to the setbacks required in the B-1 zoning district during a previous round of ordinance amendments.
Carlson made a motion to approve the ordinance change for B-2 district from 160 ft to 130 ft for Federal/State Highways & County Roads and to 65 ft for Local roads. Smith seconded the motion. Motion approve unanimously.
 - Changes that would make solar energy systems (smaller 10-100kw installations of solar panels intended to serve the property on which they sit) a conditional use rather than an interim use. This would be more consistent with what is in the Wright County Ordinance and help to avoid issues with interim uses terminating in certain situations that could force the removal for the solar panels.
Smith made a motion to approve the ordinance change for solar energy systems up to 100kw to a conditional use rather than an interim use. Dearing seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- Amendments to Section 507.4 that lays out situations where interim use permits can be terminated – such as when property transfers or when ordinances change to no longer permit that interim use. The amendment would be to make solar farms and solar energy systems exempt from this requirement.

Carlson made a motion to approve the changes in 507.4 to allow solar farms and solar energy systems exempt from this requirement. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 2 – 1 with Dearing opposed.

Application: Ordinance Amendment to prohibit solar energy farms in all of Corinna Township.
Applicant: Corinna Township's Solar Subcommittee

Dearing made a motion to adopt the language proposed in the public hearing that prohibits solar energy farms Township-wide going forward and removing the moratorium for solar farms. Existing solar farms already approved prior to July 16, 2019 would be considered legal nonconforming uses. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Grunwald AVE NW: Board wished to have Mike Couri continue to move forward on the project.
3. Irvine AVE NW: Clerk Brown Letter of 7/10/2019 to Glaser was reviewed. No action
4. Junk Clean-Up Day Volunteer and Vendors: Reviewed.
5. July 1, 2019 Letter from Stacy Marquardt Regarding Junk Complaints: Reviewed.
6. MN Association of Township District 7 Meeting Notice – August 8: Reviewed.

Information on File:

Office of the State Auditor: E-Updates of 6/28/19 and 7/12/19 were reviewed.

Payment of Claims:

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Dearing, to approve Direct Deposit Payroll JE 2019-40 through JE 2019-42 (Miller Welle Heiser Payroll Service); Payroll Checks #1323 through #1326 (Miller Welle Heiser Payroll Service); Check #21751 to Check # 21764 in the amount of \$23,122.31. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dearing, seconded by Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

August 6, 2019



Jean Just, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer



John Dearing, Vice-Chairman