

Town of Frankfort Plan Commission 5/27/2020 Minutes

Commission Chair Don Gisch called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Due to precautions being taken for the Covid 19 virus pandemic, remote attendance for this meeting was an option.

Don Gisch attended the meeting remotely. Commission member Donna Juleff joined remotely at 2:15 p.m.

Commission members Maureen Manore and Donna Gates were present in the Town Hall and were signed into the meeting by Zoom.

Town Board Chair Bryce Black and Supervisor Curt Stine attended remotely. A quorum of Board members was present but made no decisions as the Town Board.

Also joining remotely was the Town Zoning Administrator Dan Fedderly and Dairyland Power representatives Rob Maly and Jessica Sandy.

Discuss Conditional Use Permit Application from Dairyland Power Concerning Transmission Line Routes

The Commission examined the list of easements. The application and the maps were examined. The Zoning Administrator was asked if any information was missing from the submitted package. He indicated that all the needed documents and information was provided.

The Commission discussed the schedule of operation for the power line installation and the need to examine the affected town roads before and after the evolution. This should be done by one representative from the Town Board and one from Dairyland Power. The Commission requested copies of DNR permits needed for steep slopes and Pepin County permits for county roads.

The Commission discussed the Zoning Ordinance conditional use sections as pertaining to this application. The Zoning Administrator's opinion was that it was appropriate for a conditional use permit for this application.

Maureen Manore reported that the Board was working on an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to rectify and clarify the language pertaining to power lines and utilities.

Their objective was to adopt the amendment at the July Town Board meeting before the power line installation work is scheduled to begin.

The Town Chair asked the Plan Commission to proceed with the steps necessary for use permit for Dairyland Power Cooperative.

The Plan Commission decided to have a public hearing for the conditional use application as presented.

Set Conditional Use Permit Hearing Date

The public hearing was set for June 24th at 2:00 p.m. remotely and at the Frankfort Town Hall.

Public Comments

Bryce Black asked Rob Maly why the route for the power line is changing. Maly replied

that the route is changing to avoid some of the steeper slopes that are difficult to reach. Roads would have to be built to them impacting the environment. This will make the new route longer.

Future Meeting Date and Agenda

The next Plan Commission meeting was set for June 24th following the public hearing for the conditional use permit. The agenda will include: Public Hearing; Recommendation on Conditional Use Permit; Conditions Recommended; Zoning Ordinance Amendments; Recommendation on Zoning Amendments.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

Maureen Manore
Town of Frankfort Clerk