



**CITY OF LONG LAKE
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chair Erickson.

Present: Commission Members Adams, Erickson, Hughes, Jerde, and Stephenson; City Administrator, Scott Weske; City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Addison Lewis; and Mayor Tim Hultmann.

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Jerde moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of the January 14, 2014 Planning Commission Meeting

Commissioner Adams moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing: Planning Case #2014-01 – Interim Use Permit for Rowing Club Facilities for the Long Lake Rowing Crew on Property Located at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis presented a request for an Interim Use Permit (IUP) from the Wayzata Rowing Club for use of the property at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard through the end of 2014. He described the activities that are proposed to occur on the site, noting that it is not proposed to use the building or deck for any activity. He reviewed the proposed hours of operation and noted that a copy of the site plan was included in the Commission packet. He described the proposed screening that

would be used for the storage, which would be constructed of a five-foot chain link fencing with additional screening. He referenced the staging area that would be used for preparing to take the boats out to launch and also described the launch area. He advised that the applicant would need to meet the requirements of and obtain necessary permits from the DNR. He did not believe parking would be an issue for the site because of the existing 70 stalls. He advised that the applicant is proposing to have one portable bathroom that would be located on the opposite site of the fencing area, which would provide privacy and screening and a trash container that would be installed within the enclosure. He reviewed the Hennepin County Water Patrol hours, through which the applicant has obtained a permit. He noted that all items on the site, including the portable bathroom would need to be removed from the site prior to January 1, 2015. He reviewed the IUP regulations and noted that the applicant meets all the regulations with the exception of outside storage but noted that staff believed that a fence enclosure for storage would be acceptable in this situation because of the temporary use. He noted that the boat racks that will be stored within the enclosure would exceed nine feet and referenced the City Code that only allows fencing of six feet. He stated that he would like the Commission to discuss whether the applicant should obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in order to construct a fence of appropriate height. He noted that within the packet are a listed of recommended conditions and recommended approval of the request. He asked for the input of the Commission regarding the requested action and the decision as to whether the CUP would be desired.

Commissioner Jerde confirmed the number of rowers that would be onsite at one time.

Commissioner Adams noted that as a neighboring resident he does not oppose the use by the Rowing Club but questioned whether the requested action would be specific to the Rowing Club or for all rowing that would occur on the water.

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis explained that the IUP would be specific to this property.

Nick Miller, Long Lake Rowing Club Coach, stated that the water permit is for the organized practice sessions.

Commissioner Adams questioned if the CUP would show a longer-term commitment. He explained that there have been some issues in the past and believed that there needed to be some positive actions between the groups.

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis stated that the IUP would be valid only through January 1, 2015 and explained that the CUP would only be for the fence height.

Commissioner Adams questioned if the Rowing Club would be in agreement with constructing a higher fence.

Mr. Miller stated that if directed to do so the Rowing Club would be happy to do so.

Commissioner Adams stated that in May there will be a group cleaning up the cemetery and suggested that the two groups possibly work together to get this site cleaned up as well.

Chair Erickson believed the higher fence height would be a benefit and referenced an elevated unused power line, which runs across the property. He stated that there is no use for the line as the wiring has been stripped from the building. He noted that future electric service would most likely run unground and did not believe that removal of the power line would be costly due to the copper wire that would be found within the wire. He suggested that be made into an additional condition.

Commissioner Hughes questioned who would be responsible for that action.

Chair Erickson believed that would be the responsibility of the property owner.

City Administrator Weske believed that Gopher One and Xcel would need to be contacted to determine if the wire is still live and how to go about removal.

Chair Erickson believed that the condition would assist in a longer-term use for the future.

Commissioner Stephenson stated that perhaps staff should investigate the cost and amount of work that it would take to remove that wire before that item is made a condition.

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis stated that the conditions for an IUP or CUP should remain specific to the use and explained that he would be hesitant to tie that condition to this use as it is not specifically relevant to this use and would remain whether the use is approved or denied.

Chair Erickson opened the public hearing at 6:55 p.m.

John Winston, Board of Directors Long Lake Rowing Club, stated that he also has two children that were members of the Club the previous summer and hope to continue to row at the site again this year. He stated that he could certainly go to the owner and make the request for removal but noted that it is not within his authority to proceed without the property owner's permission. He stated that they wanted to put a face to this issue and introduced new coach Nick Miller as well as parents and Rowing Club members that were present.

Mimi Bendickson, Board of Directors Long Lake Rowing Club, stated that she also has children that are a part of the Club and thanked the City for their efforts and cooperation. She agreed that the Club needs to earn the trust of the City and intends to do so. She stated that they are present tonight to voice their support of the IUP and believed that this is an appropriate use for the property and the Club intends to be a good steward of the property. She believed that the Rowing Club is beneficial for the City and brings in additional business. She hoped that the City would be very proud of the Club at the end of this year. She noted that the youth intends to assist in clean-up projects within the City and advised that she has already spoken with Public Works Director Wurzer. She stated that the Club shirts say Long Lake Rowing Club, which benefits the City.

Marty Schneider, 1176 West Wayzata, referenced the original file that was presented in 2012. He recognized that this is a different group but believed that the original group also sounded appealing when it was presented. He noted that there were a number of conditions that were not met in the past and questioned how the City would enforce the issues.

City Administrator Weske stated that the effort needs to be cooperative between the different users of the lake and stated that he is very mobile and can go to the beach to talk with concerned residents when necessary.

Mr. Schneider questioned the deadline for the conditions, noting that he believed the use would not be eligible because the conditions were not met the previous year.

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis noted that one of the conditions state that the fencing must be installed prior to the rowing equipment being brought to the site for use. He advised that the agreement would terminate January 1, 2015 and all equipment with the exception of the fence would need to be removed prior to that date. He noted that an IUP could be reapplied for.

Mr. Winston stated that the Club has a 60-day notice clause in their lease and the hope is to continue use until the property owner decides to develop the property. He hoped that the IUP could be reapplied for in 2015 when there is positive action to show the City. He noted that the Club travels all over and their

Charlie Hirt, 342 Wolf Pointe Trail, stated that he is a frequent user of the lake and does not believe that the Club is disrespectful on the water. He believes that the use had gotten better throughout the summer but expressed concern with the lake being almost shut down for the regatta that was held the previous year.

Mr. Winston noted that there is not a regatta planned for this year.

Ms. Bendickson stated that there is no rowing practice on Friday through Sunday, with the exception of Saturday mornings. She noted that the Club travels on some weekends and therefore there are some weekends when the Club does not use the water for that period of time.

Commissions Adams stated that he is encouraged with the new leadership of the Club and noted that the lake should be shared. He noted that he found the regatta to be enjoyable and stated that the event did bring in business to the local businesses, but acknowledged that some users of the lake were frustrated with the lack of ability to use the lake.

Commissioner Stephenson stated that his concern would be to attach conditions to the IUP that would be applicable to the property owner and not the applicant.

City Planning Consultant/Interim Zoning Administrator Lewis confirmed that the conditions should remain limited to the use. He asked for input from the Commission regarding the height of the fence, noting that a fence higher than six feet would require a CUP.

Chair Erickson stated that he would be in favor of a six-foot fence.

Commissioner Adams stated that he would also support a six-foot fence. He referenced a letter of support that notes that this is an attractive activity as people come into the City.

Commissioner Stephenson stated that perhaps a sign could be installed near the lakeshore that would display the hours of use.

Chair Erickson was concerned with the additional signage but it was confirmed that the hours of operation could be included in the City newsletter.

Commissioner Adams stated that the previous year there were semi-trucks parked in that location for long periods of time.

Mr. Miller stated that the trucks simply showed up and did not ask for their permission.

Mr. Winston stated that they will voluntarily follow-up on the possible removal of the power line.

Chair Erickson closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

Commissioner Stephenson moved to recommend that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2014-05 approving an Interim Use Permit (IUP) with findings and conditions for the Long Lake Rowing Club to operate a rowing club facilities on property located at 1310 West Wayzata Boulevard, with the direction for the fence height to be stated as six feet. Commissioner Jerde seconded. Ayes: all.

Mr. Winston and the members of the Rowing Club expressed their thanks to the Commission.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Liaison Report

Mayor Hultmann reported that there will be another public hearing on April 1st regarding the potential of a no wake Ordinance. He noted that the issue had been discussed the previous year because of the high water levels. He advised that both Long Lake and Orono would need to pursue this action together. He explained that the draft Ordinance was based on the existing Ordinance used successfully by Medicine Lake since the 1970s. He advised that the Ordinance would need to be implemented in order for Hennepin County to enforce. He stated that there will be an upcoming presentation from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to provide information to the landowners regarding the option to apply for grants through the District for shoreline stabilization projects. He stated that the Long Lake Rowing Club has interest in another property, should the site currently in use be developed. He stated that the alternative property would not be ideal because outside storage is not allowed. He advised that the previous leader of the Rowing Club that caused the previous problems, Todd Wilson, has relocated to another indoor site in the City will soon present a request for a regatta, which he has already advertised. He noted that he did alert Mr. Wilson that there is only one rowing club permit allowed for the lake, which has already been issued to the organization present tonight.

Commission Member Business

Commissioner Adams stated that he has heard rumors of an Irish pub business making an offer to buy the Red Rooster and adjacent properties in order to make one larger restaurant.

Mayor Hultmann noted that an offer has been made but the adjacent property owners have not accepted.

Staff Business

Nothing further to report.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Jerde moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Ayes: all.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator