

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY
LAND USE PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 7, 2011
Business Meeting – 4:30 p.m.
Public Hearing – 6:00 p.m. – no items**

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair McConnell called the meeting of the Land Use Planning and Zoning Committee to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Green Lake County Government Center, County Board Room #0902, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met.

Present: Eugene Henke, Susan McConnell, Donald Peters, Thomas Traxler, Jr.

Absent: John Gende

Also Present: Al Shute, County Surveyor/Land Development Director
Carole DeCramer, Committee Secretary
Jeff Haase, Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Henke/Peters, unanimously carried, to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Traxler/Peters, unanimously carried, to approve the June 2, 2011, and June 13, 2011, minutes.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Marc Jackowski – Land Division

Marc Jackowski, N1202 County Road S, Markesan – Mr. Jackowski discussed his desire to sell a small parcel of land without having to meet the minimum ten acres as required by the county zoning ordinance. The committee explained that they are in the process of reviewing the agricultural districts, but it is a lengthy process and the ordinance will not be amended anytime soon. The committee directed Shute to review the Town of Manchester comprehensive plan related to this proposed land division.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Fox, Town of Green Lake Chairman – Every town should update their comprehensive plan. No one wants to do it because it takes time and money. We're not making much progress.

CORRESPONDENCE

Voluntary days off – Unpaid

Shute:

– Carole DeCramer has requested two unpaid days under the county's voluntary leave program. This is designed to help with budget constraints.

Motion by Traxler/Peters, unanimously carried, to approve DeCramer's request for two unpaid days.

-The department was notified by the Treasurer's department that a credit card swiping machine will be placed in the Land Use Planning and Zoning office. The committee agreed that it would be best if the county had one swiping machine in the treasurer's office and customers could go to that department to make payments.

-Copies of a newspaper article were given to each committee member pertaining to new case law regarding municipalities considering the comprehensive plan when deciding rezone requests.

-The committee inquired as to the status of the letter that Assistant Corporation Counsel Haase was directed to write to the attorney representing the Little Green Lake Rehabilitation and Protection District. Haase responded that he was not successful when placing a call to the attorney.

PURCHASES - None

CLAIMS

Claims totaling \$62.85 were submitted.

Motion by Peters/Henke, unanimously carried, to approve the claims in the amount of \$62.85 for payment.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORTS

Shute – Discussed the various aspects of the activity report.

Haase – Discussed the violation report.

Motion by Traxler/Peters, unanimously carried, to approve the May, 2011, monthly reports.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

a. Summary of Landmark Services Conditional Use Permit

Shute – The committee asked for a summary of what has occurred since the original conditional use permit was granted. After discussing what was agreed upon through the conditional use permit process and what the company has actually done since that time, the committee directed staff to contact Landmark Services to inform them that they have 30 days to rectify the sign issue.

b. Agricultural Districts

Shute – Each of the committee members received a draft copy of the proposed ordinance. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

c. Proposed Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

Shute – The Department of Natural Resources is in the process of reviewing the ordinance that the committee agreed to send to them. This will also be discussed at the next meeting.

GENERAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

a. Such other matters as authorized by law

b. Future activities

c. Wind energy ordinance

Peters and Traxler stated that they had both visited a wind turbine in order to observe the flickering and to listen to the sounds. Both commented on what they had experienced. Peters said that he feels the county would be remiss not to have input as to where the windmills are placed. Both agreed that this is something that the county needs to look at further to see if a moratorium would be appropriate for Green Lake County. Attorney Haase will check into whether or not moratoriums have been challenged in court.

d. Agricultural conversion fees

The state budget was recently adopted and includes a provision for no longer collecting agricultural conversion fees for rezoning ag land. At prior meetings, the committee discussed amending the county ordinance to also do away with their portion of the conversion fee, but wanted to wait to see what the state would do. Since the state’s decision is finalized, the committee agreed to direct Shute to bring back a proposed ordinance deleting the ag conversion fee language. This will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

2012 BUDGET DISCUSSION

The committee discussed the Finance Committee’s direction for departments to cut 3% from their 2012 budgets. Traxler expressed frustration with not being able to get solid numbers from the clerk’s office. He also expressed concern with one of the biggest departments that said they just can’t seem to cut 3%. McConnell talked about several revenue stream possibilities including a room tax that the Town of Brooklyn has implemented. Peters pointed out the irony with some departments purchasing a piece of equipment for \$16,000 and this department struggles to find \$16,000 to cut from its expenses. It was finally agreed that cutting 3% from the budget was a better option than consolidating the department with Land Conservation; however, no action will be taken on the budget until after the upcoming joint committee meeting.

DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT CONSOLIDATION WITH LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

The discussion regarding the consolidation of the two departments will begin at 8:30 a.m. on July 8th.

7:13 – Recess

7:25 – Reconvene

CLOSED SESSION PER WISCONSIN STATE STATUTE 1985(1)(G) CONFERRING WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING LITIGATION, WHICH THE COUNTY IS INVOLVED AND/OR IS LIKELY TO BECOME INVOLVED.

- A. DISCUSSION/UPDATED RELATED TO CASE #11CV-2011CV116**
- B. UPDATE FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL RELATED TO COMMENTS BY THE JUDGE REGARDING OPEN METINGS/CLOSED SESSIONS**

7:18 p.m. Motion by Peters/McConnell, unanimously carried on roll call (4-ayes, 0-nays), to adjourn to closed session per Wisconsin State Statute 1985(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel regarding litigation, which the county is involved and/or is likely to become involved.

- A. DISCUSSION/UPDATED RELATED TO CASE #11CV-2011CV116**
- B. UPDATE FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL RELATED TO COMMENTS BY THE JUDGE REGARDING OPEN METINGS/CLOSED SESSIONS**

RESUME INTO OPEN SESSION TO DISCUSS FINDINGS OF CLOSED SESSION

7:40 p.m. Motion by Traxler/Peters, unanimously carried on roll call (4-eyes, 0-nays), to resume into open session.

NEXT MEETING DATE

July 8, 2011 - Special Meeting - 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN

Motion by Traxler/Peters, unanimously carried, to adjourn.

Time: 7:42 p.m.

RECORDED BY

Carole DeCramer,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED ON:

August 4, 2011