

Town of Oakland
Plan Commission meeting
Monday, October 10, 2022

Members Present: Chairman Brian Conley, Sandee Pease, Sandy Waletzko, and Stanley Dzikonski. Mary Brill was absent due to illness.

Called to order at 2:30 p.m. by BC. The meeting was posted and a quorum was present making the meeting legal. Minutes of meeting on August 8, were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes by SP, seconded by SW, and passed on a voice vote.

Correspondence: Monthly Douglas County Zoning Committee agendas and minutes received for the past two months. No applications were for the Town of Oakland.

LakeAccess Ordinance: BC reported that the town board wanted the plan commission to draft an ordinance regulating town land/access lanes on Dowling Lake. He said the board did not want to vacate the lanes to adjacent property owners. He did not find any Wisconsin Town's Association sample ordinances on the topic. SP provided survey plats for the area around the lake. Some date back to the 1920's which brings their survey accuracy into question. A once platted small park area with a half moon pull-off on opposite side of the lake from boat landing was discussed. Questions raised as to the exact location and status of the proposed park. SP reported she had contacted the City of Shell Lake about their lake accesses. They do not have a lake access ordinance but follow DNR regulations on accesses. DNR has class A, B, and C designations. Class A and B require parking provisions. Class C is primitive limited to foot traffic usage. Question raised as to need or requirement for posted signs. Members reviewed the ideas provided by MB who could not be in attendance. She suggested the ordinance clearly state what activities would and would not be allowed on the access lanes. SW asked about involvement from the Amnicon Dowling Lake Management District. Consensus from members to put together draft ordinance first. BC asked if a map should be included with the ordinance. MB noted in her correspondence that reference could be made as to locating map of accesses. SP will check again on lake plats and members will work on the language of the ordinance. BC will bring the matter before the town board to get further guidance on what they want.

Comprehensive Plan Update: BC noted no new information on the plan and that many county towns are not working on plans as mandated by state law.

Road Closure Ordinance: SP is working on updating the town's 2012 Road Closure Ordinance to include statement of need and purpose. She asked if the ordinance was for permanent or temporary closures. Members believed the intent was to cover temporary closures. She then suggested the title include the word "temporary" to better cover the purpose of the ordinance. Discussion took place as to ways to best communicate closures. SD mentioned a recent accident on County B that required an emergency closure. Members asked if the town's website and/or Facebook page, or plan committee website provide immediate information on any closures. The issue will be investigated further. SP will continue working on revisions for the ordinance.

Ordinance Reviews: BC continues to review ordinances for revisions that may be needed. He was able to receive more documents from the town clerk to post on the commission website. Some were copies lacking signatures. He will proceed to get originals or signatures before they are posted.

Next Plan Meeting: November meeting set for November 7, at 2:30 pm.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by SD, seconded by SP, and passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 3:56pm.

Recorded by: SW