

Town of Oakland  
Plan Commission meeting  
Monday, November 13, 2023

Members Present: Chairman Brian Conley, Mary Brill, Sandee Pease, and Sandy Waletzko. Member Stanley Dzikowski was absent.

Three visitors were in attendance as representatives of the Amnicon Dowling Lake Management District: Tom Riedel, Suzanne Riedel, Judy Peterson.

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 July 10, 2023 were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes by SP, seconded by MB, and passed on a voice vote.

**Correspondence:** BC reported that all correspondence received related to the Wakesports issue on the agenda.

**Discussion on Wakesport Ordinance:** The matter was first presented to the plan commission at the July 10, 2023 meeting by Kim Nygaard from the lake management district. Information on the proposed bill LRB-3518 covering regulations on wakesurfing and wakeboating was discussed. Representatives of the lake management district that were present did not support the bill as they felt it failed to provide protection for the lakes and undercut local efforts to manage lakes. They wanted the plan commission to draft an ordinance for the town board to adopt that would cover the size of lakes; minimum depth for wakesports; and the distance from the shoreline. MB pointed out that by law, the ordinance could not specify the class or size of the boat so that could not be part of the ordinance. SP stated that records show the mean depth of town lakes is 7 feet making the lakes vulnerable to many environmental problems to the lakes along with shoreline damage. Tom Riedel expressed concern over the bill's 200 foot designation as being inadequate and it failed to provide minimum depth standards. Judy Peterson outlined that both Oakland and Summit would need to have an ordinance. BC commented that such an ordinance would need to apply to all lakes in the townships and we would need to work with the Town of Summit to have consistency. Commission members discussed getting ordinance samples such as one from the Town of Rhine to use in drafting our ordinance. MB will check with the DNR to see if they have any information and she will work on a ordinance draft for our next meeting. Tom suggested that boating regulations be reviewed and that a public hearing on the matter may be necessary. Any ordinance created could not be more restrictive than state regulations. Motion by MB, seconded by SW, that the plan commission draft an ordinance to regulate prohibited equipment on boats and prohibited operation that results in artificial wake-enhancement on lakes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Lyman Lake Access/Parr Road:** Plan commission members discussed the ongoing issue of ownership of a strip of land at Lyman Lake (end of Parr Road) the town board claims has been used as an access and belongs to the town. MB noted letter from the board Dated October 14, was sent to the Millers requesting removal of their items from the access. Property owners Albert and Barbara Miller claim they own the land and hired attorneys Ledin, Olson & Cockerham, S.C. to represent them on the matter. The attorneys sent to the town their information claiming to prove ownership for the Millers dated October 17, 2023. SW expressed confusion over the Quit Claim Deed for the area in question just filed October 12, 2023. BC outlined the area in question on the survey map and spoke to the town's work on Parr Road and use of access strip for a turn around when plowing and he noted the use of the area by adjacent property owner Terrance Wolfe to access his property. He presented for review a draft of a letter to be sent to the Millers that the town board would deal with Miller's attorneys going forward. Members agreed that the matter needed legal attention before any further action on the issue.

**Plan Commission Agenda:** SW suggested that the commission agenda should include ordinance reviews under the topic of old business as an ongoing consideration. She noted for the record that the Lake Access Ordinance was approved by the town board on July 11, 2023, and is now included in the plan commission website.

**Next Plan Meeting:** The next commission meeting was set for December 11, at 2:30 pm.

**Adjournment:** Motion from MB, seconded by SP, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

recorded by: SW