

Town of Oakland  
Plan Commission meeting  
Monday, December 12, 2022

Members Present: Chairman Brian Conley, Mary Brill, Sandee Pease, Sandy Waletzko and Stanley Dzikonski.

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 November 7, were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes by MB, seconded by SP, and passed on a voice vote.

**Correspondence:** BC reported receiving a letter from Steve and Anita Olson at Dowling Lake concerning their proposal to do some prairie restoration on their property. The issue was placed on the agenda and discussed later in the meeting.

**Town Owned Lake Access Ordinance:** Members discussed status of the work towards an ordinance covering access lanes at town lakes. SP provided a copy of the Class C notice sign used by Shell Lake for their lake accesses placed at each access. At a community meeting in the past, lake residents did not like the idea of having signs at access points. SW asked if a sign could be placed at the boat landing indicating their was an ordinance and what the rules were for using the accesses. Question raised as to enforcement of any ordinance. BC will check with the sheriff department as to their position on enforcement of town ordinances. Matter will be studied further.

**Municipal Emergency Operation Plan:** MB had contacted BC about a municipal emergency management which she had worked on in 2008 but did not find records that it was adopted by the town board. BC contacted the county for information on the county wide emergency plan. He noted that state laws says every town should have an emergency plan. The Douglas County Emergency Management Office sent a plan format dated 2009. Commission members suggested the plan would likely need updating especially with current internet communications that are available today. SD will bring the matter to the attention of the fire department and John Melcher, Oakland's Fire Chief. MB said she had already sent the town's 2008 document to John. Questions raised as to the Mutual Aid Fire Agreement in the county and what other town's may have for their emergency management plan. BC will email the county template to commission members for review.

**Road Closure Ordinance Revisions:** SP explained the revisions she had made to update the Temporary Road Closure Ordinance. MB noted a correction needed in Section I but no other changes were suggested. Motion made by MB, seconded by SD, to submit the revised ordinance to the town board for approval. Motion carried on a voice vote.

**Steve Olson Property Improvement plan:** Steve and Anita Olson on Dowling Lake sent a copy of a proposal from Prairie Restorations for their property. The proposal included the construction of a berm on their property adjacent to the town owned lake access with placement of plants and trees included in their plan. They were inquiring as to the need for town approval. SP had looked at the plan and said she had number of questions. Members discussed the berm as to the exact height, length, and possible drainage issues the berm may create. BC will contact the Olsons for further information. He recommended that the Olsons submit their plan to the DNR and County Zoning for review and approval. Members agreed that no work should be allowed on the town's access lane.

**Variance Decision Form:** SW asked if their was a copy of a form for making decisions on a variance request as was proposed in the zoning webinar. MB said she had already sent a copy of the form she put together, but will send it out again.

**Douglas County Campground Ordinance:** MB reported on the county meeting held December 6 concerning proposed changes to Douglas County Campground Ordinance. She said those in attendance mostly represented owners of existing campgrounds and liked the idea of more restrictions for new campgrounds and expected that they would be grandfathered in under the old rules. At the meeting she indicated she spoke to over development concerns and the impact on forest lands and lakes. She felt the county board members present seemed to favor increasing restrictions. No decisions by the county were made at the meeting.

**Next Plan Meeting:** Next meeting set for January 9, 2023, at 2:30 pm.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by SW, seconded by SP, and passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Recorded by: SW