Vermillion Township
Mining Ordinance Discussion
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2024

Attendance:
    Supervisor Chairman Larry Ring
    Supervisor Jeramy Ladzun
    Supervisor Jason Anderson
    Clerk Cynthia Ladzun

Chairman Ring opened the public hearing at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Clerk Cynthia Ladzun read the public notice and read the comments that were received prior to the meeting.

Township Planner, Nate Sparks presented the township's zoning map to the Board to show where the agricultural district is and explained that the current codes allow mining as a conditional use in this district. He also presented a map that was created by the Met Council that shows where the aggregate resources are at, as well as locations of active and inactive mines in the township.
Dakota County, with the assistance of Dakota County Soil & Water created a model mining ordinance that townships and cities can use as a basis to create their own ordinance.

The idea of having mining operations only be allowed as an interim use permit was discussed. This would allow the township to address any issues before a future interim use permit is issued. It was noted that an annual permit could also be issued to keep track of what is being done on an annual basis.

Structuring of the zoning availability for where new mines would be allowed was also discussed and it was proposed that we put an overlay on existing active mines. This mining overlay will have to be added to the comprehensive plan as an amendment and it would also be a change to the zoning map.

Sparks will work on creating the overlay concept and fixing the interim use permit language in the current code. He mentioned that the Board will still need to compare the existing performance standards in the code against the model mining ordinance and this will be done at a future date.

Adjourn:
Ladzun motioned to adjourn the public hearing at 8:18 pm. Anderson seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Cynthia Ladzun
Vermillion Township Clerk