

CITY OF VERGAS PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

6:00 pm

Event Center & Zoom Meeting

The City of Vergas Planning Commission held a public hearing on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 6:00 pm at the Vergas Event Center and on Zoom with the following members present Bruce Albright, Van Bruhn, Robert Jacoby, Neil Wothe and Paul Pinke. Absent: None. Also, present: Clerk- Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Julie Bruhn, Tyler Schmid, Jeff Zitzow, Tara Dressen, Dan Bonham and Engineer Scott Kolbinger.

Bruce Albright opened the public hearing at 6:00 pm.

Discussed variance application from 806 Scharf Ave E. City Ordinance 151.21 e3b regarding 10-foot setback on side yard, property owner requesting a 9-foot setback on the side yard.

James Bonham discussed project. They would like to remodel the cabin and extend it out, the lot lines were not established in the 70's. The house would have a one-foot overhang causes the house to be 8 foot 10 inches from lot line and by Scharf Avenue it would be 7.5 inches from the lot line.

Neighbors have not expressed any concerns regarding the project.

The cabin is currently 24 feet wide and 18 feet deep. They are looking at adding 24 feet towards Scharf Avenue. The addition would be 22 feet closer to the road.

Commissioners requested Bonham talk with neighbor regarding their opinion of addition and to stake property lines. Commissioners requested Lammers contact Otter Tail County regarding the ability to add on to a building near a lake.

Albright stated we have 60 days to respond to this variance request.

Albright closed public hearing.

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The City of Vergas Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 6:20 pm at the Vergas Event Center and on Zoom with the following members present Bruce Albright, Van Bruhn, Robert Jacoby, Neil Wothe and Paul Pinke. Absent: None. Also, present: Clerk- Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Julie Bruhn, Tyler Schmid, Jeff Zitzow, Tara Dressen, Dan Bonham and Engineer Scott Kolbinger.

Bruce Albright opened the meeting at 6:20 pm.

Addition of Veterans Memorial was added to agenda.

Motion by Bruhn, seconded by Pinke to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2021, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Status of Recommendation to City Council**

Council approved amending the City of Vergas proposals involving permanent structure(s) and/or activity on city property to require 100% funding in place.

Council approved pickle ball courts, but prior to them starting construction, if there is a site the council feels is suitable, Council can request they move the courts.

Council hired West Central Initiative to write comprehensive plan.

Council accepted Natalie Fisher's resignation and appointed Neil Wothe.

## **Variance**

Variance was discussed regarding a second variance for 75-foot front yard setback, neighbors being okay with addition, and having property staked. This item was tabled to next month's meeting.

## **Construction Permits**

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Jacoby to approve construction permit for 301 Altona Avenue for a storage shed to be located on tar. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Wothe to approve construction permit for 250 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N (Vergas Auto) for awning and 6x16 seating area. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Old Business:**

Nuisance properties were discussed regarding these properties: located at parcel 82000500034000 on old trailer house and bulldozer; 401 S Pelican Ave has been cleaned up since receiving the complaint. Motion by Wothe, seconded by Pinke to send Keith Kuehne, property owner of 82000500034000 to remove nuisance of an old trailer house. Motion passed unanimously.

Tara Dressen stated she has been sent a list of issues regarding violations with landscaping and they have been taken care of. Right of way has been staked and one rock formation is located on their property by a couple of feet. Rock structures are for water formation. The berm that had been requested prior to this meeting has been completed. Dressen requested the removal of the two rock formations outside of the culvert area and a swale be installed. Engineer Scott Kolbinger stated there is a need for rock formations and they may want to look at building up their driveway. Dressen stated they would not want to build up the driveway. Albright questioned DuFrane regarding stormwater permit and plans from Ultieg Engineering. Tabled the discussion until the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **New Business**

Jeff Zitzow, co-owner of 105 Main Street provided information regarding their plans of removal and construction of a new building. There is an issue regarding the parking lot and alley. Tyler Schmidt, co-owner of 105 Main Street discussed the alley between liquor store and 105 Main Street. They are planning on 6 apartments and parking will be a concern. There will be parking spaces behind the building.

Grass Ordinance was provided to commissioners. Weed Inspector Julie Bruhn asked for guidance of ordinance, Does the ordinance include fences, poles and property along the railroad? Albright read the ordinance 92.38. Commissioners stated they will rewrite ordinance and asked Lammers to get ordinances from other communities.

Veteran Memorial Park committee reviewed the plans for the Veterans' Park proposed on city property. located at 230 E Frazee Avenue. Albright stated the proposal needs to be approved by the city before commissioners can approve a construction permit. Albright informed Veterans' Memorial Park committee they would need 100% of funding before they would be able to start project, but they could have project approved in stages.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Secretary,

Julie Lammers, CMC Clerk-Treasurer  
City of Vergas

**Follow Up Actions:**

Attorneys prepare a resolution to allow type two 4-wheelers to be allowed on County Roads (the city truck routes).

Lammers contacts the county regarding building by the lake.

Lammers provides other city weed grass (weed) ordinances.

**Actions Completed and Removed from Follow up:**

Ness Backhoe to build berm at 88 Park View Drive.

Lammers contact County regarding cement slab along trail.

Public Informational meeting June 8 at 6 pm for pickleball court.

Public Hearing June 9 at 6pm for variance with meeting to follow.

Lammers to provide interest amounts to Jaron Lammle.

**Council recommendations:**

None.