

CITY OF VERGAS PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
Monday, August 28, 2023  
6:00 pm  
Vergas Event Center

A City of Vergas Planning Commission meeting was held on Monday, August 28, 2023, with the following members present: Neil Wothe, Robert Jacoby, Rebecca Hasse and Judy Kvam. Absent: Bruce Albright. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike Dufrane, Blaine Green, Dean Haarstick, Arlen Franchuk, Sandy Franchuk and Alex Ohman.

**Public Hearing: 311 Park View Drive – Shed**

The acting chair Robert Jacoby opened the public hearing at 5:45 pm and reviewed the shed which was placed on a sewer easement and within 10 feet of the property line.

Arlen Franchuk, owner of shed stated the building has electricity, concrete around and has been landscaped but it is on skids. Franchuk stated he did have a permit and does not know who has a problem with the shed. The property owner stated he would move the building if there was an issue with the sewer. No neighbors contacted City office or were in attendance at the meeting.

**Closed Public Hearing**

**Call to Order**

Acting Chair Robert Jacoby called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Agenda Additions and Deletions**

Approved agenda with following additions: 291 Bennet Road Construction Permit.

**Minutes**

Motion by Wothe, seconded by Kvam to approve minutes for June 26, 2023. Motion carried.

**Status of Council Recommendations**

The council accepted the resignation of Neil Wothe and appointed Alex Ohman to the Planning Commission.

**Construction Permits**

Permits Approved by City Clerk

200 W Main St, re-shingle.

Lammers approved permit for 200 W Main St to re-shingle.

111 E Main St, remove sink and add cabinet

Lammers approved permit for 111 E Main St to remove sink and add a cabinet.

Permits needing Approval.

817 E Scharf Ave, asphalt driveway

Motion by Wothe, seconded by Kvam to approve paving driveway at 817 E Scharf Ave. Motion passed unanimously.

230 East Frazee Ave, sign and monument

Motion by Kvam, seconded by Wothe to approve sign and monument at 230 Frazee Avenue. Motion passed unanimously.

291 Bennet Road, Concrete Slab

Motion by Wothe, seconded by Kvam to approve concrete slab by the back entrance of their home. Motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

311 Park View Drive -Shed

Motion by Kvam, seconded by Wothe to approve variance with the condition the easement stays, and the property must move shed whenever the sewer line needs to be accessed. Motion passed unanimously. Jacoby stated it is clear to everyone the easement is still in place we cannot give a variance for the easement.

Ordinances

Streets & Sidewalks, Ordinance Culverts, Right-a-way permit, Ordinance 151.32, 85 and 93

This is a work in process and the goal is to have an update at the September Planning Commission meeting. The hole by Hardware Store has been filled and Great Plains Natural Gas has been billed.

Shoreline Management Ordinance

This is a work in process and will have an update soon.

Updated Vergas Basic Code

This is a work in progress and will be discussed next month.

Nuisance Properties within Vergas

Reviewed the nuisance properties. Closed the following 130 E Elm St, 306 E Frazee Ave, 261 W Hill St, 281 W Hill. Gave the following properties additional time: 280 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S, 275 S Railway Ave and 170 S 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. Certified letters are to be sent to 350 S Pelican Ave, 101 E Mill, 110 Railway Ave. Lammers stated the following properties have items and garbage all over there yard: 339 E Frazee Ave, 840 East Scharf and 213 E Main St. The commissioners requested pictures and ordinance they are in violation of.

Vergas Zoning Map

This is a work in progress and will be discussed next month.

Gravel Pit Survey

Green reviewed the gravel pit survey conditions and asked members if they could write the report with the new ordinance guidelines. If the report is written with current ordinance, it will not be useful after January. Motion by Wothe, seconded by Hasse to recommend to Council to allow Widseth to present the Gravel Pit Survey based on the new ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Secretary,

Julie Lammers, Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

*Follow Up Actions:*

Snow emergency routes.

Review and update Ordinance 72.

Updated Shoreline Management Ordinance (Lammers & Kvam)

Lammers, Dufrane, Engineers to review and update Ordinance 79, 85 and Ordinance 93 regarding culverts and right of ways.

Review updated ordinance materials from League of MN Cities. (Sent email with update 3/28/2023)

Dufrane to review nuisance ordinance.

*Council recommendations:*

Gravel Pit Survey with new ordinance.