

CITY OF VERGAS PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, September 23, 2024

6:00 pm

Vergas Government Services Building and Zoom

A City of Vergas Planning Commission meeting was held on Monday, September 23, 2024, in a hybrid meeting at the Government Services Center with the following members present: Bruce Albright, Jim Courneya, Rebecca Hasse, Shane Hasse and Alex Ohman. Absent: none. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers and Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane; citizen Rex Kingsbury, Mark Anderson and Mary Anderson.

Call to Order

Chairman Bruce Albright called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Ohman to approve agenda with following addition: memorial. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by Ohman, seconded by R. Hasse to approve minutes for August 26 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Status of Council Recommendations

Council will hold a public hearing on Oct. 8, 2024 regarding the farm ordinance. The following requirements shall be met in order to keep chickens on a parcel within the city:

1. No more than four (4) chickens shall be kept on the premises;
2. Chickens shall be kept in a coop or attached coop run/enclosed at all times;
3. No roosters shall be kept on the premises;
4. The premises must be located in a Single and Two-Family Residential (R-1) or Limited Multiple-Family Residential (R-2) zoning district; and
5. The premises must have a lot area of at least five thousand (5,000) square feet.

Construction Permits

Approved by Clerk-Treasurer

Sign at 301 Glenn Street.

Permits needing approval.

1015 E Scharf Ave, new house

Motion by Courneya, seconded by S. Hasse to approve permit for house to be built on 1015 E Scharf Ave. Motion passed unanimously.

620 Glenn St

Motion by Ohman, seconded by R. Hasse to approve permit for house to be built on 620 Glenn St with the approval of the Otter Tail County Land and Resource Management for a sewer permit and home being built no higher than 25 feet. Motion passed unanimously.

Grade and Fill Permit

Motion by Ohman, seconded by Courneya to approve grade and fill permit for 620 Glen St. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Memorial.

Rex Kingsbury stated he has been coming to Vergas since 1963 and his parents always loved Vergas. His dad passed away in 2010 and his mom passed away in February of 2024. Impressed with the planters in front of the Municipal Building he would like to put a memorial in the park by the loon. All members agreed it was a great idea and asked him to speak with the park board.

Old Business:

Ordinances

There are a few committees that have not finished their updates. Lammers will focus on Vergas Basic Code once the Lake Shore Management Ordinance is complete.

Nuisance Properties within Vergas

320 E Frazee Ave stated he does not allow cates in his garage any longer, removed nuisance as of 9/23/2024. Those properties with chickens are on hold until ordinance public hearing is held. A permit was approved regarding the sign.

Discussed properties along Townline Road with abandoned buildings. Lammers will get addresses from DuFrane and contact owners about their plans for these buildings.

Vergas Zoning Map

Ohman has updated. Motion by Ohman, seconded by S. Hasse to hold a public hearing on October 28 at 6 pm at the event center regarding the updated zoning map. Motion passed unanimously.

Attached Accessory Structures

Ohman recommended discussing this at next month's meeting after all board members have time to review the information.

Adjournment

Motion by S. Hasse, seconded by Courneya to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary,

Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

Follow Up Actions:

Albright and Courneya update grade and fill and construction permit spreadsheets regarding closed permits.

Council recommendations:

Update Chicken ordinance.

Approve Lake Shore Management Ordinance