

Springfield Plan Commission Meeting  
Springfield Town Hall  
Monday, October 3, 2016

**Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

The Plan Commission meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair Jeff Endres. Present were: Bill Acker, Steve Resan, Scott Laufenberg, Elliott Long, Ron Koci and Jim Pulvermacher, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Jan Barman. Others present: Rich Wipperfurth, Joe Spahn, Mike Barsema, Maureen Barsema, Joseph Kuhn, Scott Hoyer, Barney Shearer and Whitney Hite. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law**

Deputy Clerk Barman reported that notice of this meeting was met by posting at the Town Hall and on the website, this meeting is being recorded.

**Approval of Minutes from July 11, 2016 Meeting**

**Motion (Koci/Acker) to approve the July 11, 2016 Plan Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried, 7 – 0.**

**Public Comment Time:** None

**Richard Wipperfurth (JAR Storage), 6434 Hwy 19. Sec 12, remove deed restriction for landscaping, outside storage and storm water.**

Rich hopes to sit down with Quam Engineering (his engineer) and Jess Starks, Dane County Land Conservation about the storm water permit that was never granted because the applicant did not respond to the County's questions and therefore, Rich has not been in compliance for many years. Jan spoke to Jess today and they still do not have all the information that they are looking for, Quam said they would have it soon but that was 3 weeks ago. Rich thought he may have to do a 3' trench with clear stone for a retention pond along the fence. Rich has a written letter from Todd Hagen, WI/DOT, that he is allowed to plant the trees in the R-O-W with the understanding that they may have to be removed some day, this will be at Rich's expense. Wants to plant now, so he doesn't have to water next spring.

Discussion followed, Jim and Elliott – allow trees, noted that WI/DOT may need to have them removed sometime.

Steve – no fence, wanted trees – major concession to allow fence.

Jan asked about the opening in the middle of the fence as that is where some of the outside storage is.

Ron – Fence is one issue and arborvitaes are the other. Plant 29 - 4' arborvitaes 10' apart in front of the fence and a maintenance plan for both the fence and trees with a screened gate in middle.

**Motion (Laufenberg/Koci) to approve Rich Wipperfurth project on Hwy 19, remove deed restriction for landscaping plan, approval to plant 29 arborvitaes on front side of fence (Rich will have to replace any dead trees immediately), maintenance plan for fence and trees, screened gate in opening, no outside storage, this motion is contingent upon the storm water plan with the County. Friendly amendment: Long – If WI/DOT takes out trees for expansion Rich will have to replace in this area, Laufenberg accepted this amendment and Koci agreed.**

**Motion carried, 7 – 0.**

**Harold and Betty Spahn, Joe Spahn, agent, 4996 Enchanted Valley Rd, Sec 31, CUP for unlimited animal units.** This is a 7.45 acre farmette and has not been in compliance since 2008. Joe is working with Shawn Esser from Dane County Land Conservation and Shawn Widish (Dane County Zoning). A down payment has been made to replace the roof on the main building (to the north) that houses the animals but wanted to make sure this is approved before completing this project. There are 80 acres across the road that was to be developed into housing but at this time that will not happen. There is 75-80 head of cattle there now and should be 10 at most for acreage and zoning. The Spahns are not expanding, just want to keep what has been there for many years. These are heifers 750-1200# in weight. This parcel became out of compliance when the Autumn Pond Development was approved in 2008.

The building that was in the agreement that was too close to the road has been removed and the wooden building will be removed after the corn is harvested. He is scrapping and hauling the manure but with all this rain it is liquid. About half of the 40 acres across the road are available for spreading. Spahns have additional farm land to spread manure on for a total of about 500 acres. The heifers will be eliminated eventually.

Joe Kuhn – For the last 4 years (Lot 31) he has been trying to communicate with the Spahns but nothing comes of this. He wrote to the Spahns about these issues but they didn't respond. Harold & Betty Spahn signed the plat for this development and the agreement on this lot and was meant to be a hobby farm.

Runoff from cattle – runs downhill to Outlot 3 into pond, there is a trail around the pond but is impassable because of the manure. Joe presented a petition opposing the CUP. The plat states that this farmette will be removed and the lot owners purchased and built their homes with this understanding. Many of them have established prairie grass on their lots for environmental purposes to prevent runoff from their properties. Asks that the town denies this request for a CUP.

The owners of Lot 28 purchased their lot after seeing the clear blue pond (in the spring) and now it is an ugly green scum over the pond.

Steve – a water filtration system would make it 97% pure, but the DNR doesn't require farmers to do anything about this issue.

Joe K – zoning is A-2(4) currently, does not allow for this many animal units with that zoning. If the Spahns dissolve the south side of plat, the County will probably never approve this again. Trail has to be raised, housing cattle under roof will control runoff.

Ron – vulnerable parcel because of where the 7 acres are located – how does this affect those around you, 85 animals on 7 acres?

Jim – CUP – time limit – allow CUP for 10 years, to be housed or on concrete – no pasturing.

Jeff – 7 acres – 60-70 would be tightly managed, 85 too many.

Bill – they have been in violation since 2008 but the lots near this property were sold in the last 2 years..

Joe K – takes issue with the runoff because of the pond and trails. There are 4 lots left for sale.

Jeff – 30 – 40 sm head of cattle.

Jim – If this was a neighboring farm property (stand alone), Jim would have no problem with this request but this was part of the agreement with the plat. Jim asked the audience if they have any problem with the farm being there if it wasn't for the runoff. No one said they did.

Jeff – some type of sediment containment to control runoff, set a limit of years and number of cattle.

Jim – limited number to utilize the area, containment.

Jeff – similar to storm water – earthen berm to stop most of the runoff, beneficial in extreme runoffs.

Outdated farmstead, need to be good stewards of land and good neighbors.

Jim – needs a solution for pond.

Jeff – asked if it was springfed, needs a single point of entrance – northeast corner is where the water (60 acres) slopes this way. Jeff offered other options for Joe Spahn to pursue with the County and State, buyout idea was one.

Joe K – If Spahns would agree to a 3 -5 year limit on having these animals, he would be agreeable to that.

**Motion (Pulvermacher/Resan) to table. Motion carried, 7 – 0.**

### **ATC funds suggestions**

Elliott asked that this be added to the agenda. He would like to see water tests done for pesticides, but found out that no one tests for them. National Testing Lab \$350/sample for atrazine, 2,4-D, etc \$185/sample for Glyphosate for a total of \$537/well (may get a discount if large amount are tested).

Comfort level – end game.

Elliott had several handouts (copies will be made for next meeting). Would like the whole town to get tested.

Scott – what does this mean – if pesticides are high, then what? Need a plan of action in place if there is a concern.

Scott and Bill – cause and effect.

Bill – just to know and then you can warn people. Should there be an issue with this, what then?

Jeff – what is in our water, blame game, finger pointing, Learning as a community together.

Jim – contact Hellenbrand Water and inquire about the tests that they run. (Jan)

Ron – testing would create a base line.

Elliott – working together as a community (more samples).

**Motion (Koci/Pulvermacher) to table until next meeting, motion carried. 7 – 0.**

### **Communications/Announcements**

Handout from Mark Roffers, vouchers and reminded commissioners to vote on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, and that the next commission meeting is the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **Adjourn**

**Motion (Koci/Pulvermacher) to adjourn at 9:47 p.m. 7 – 0. Motion carried. 7 – 0.**

Jan Barman  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer