

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Planning Commission

September 25, 2013

Avon Township Hall (16881 Queens Road, Avon)

Call to Order: Chairman Mergen called to order the regular meeting of the Avon Township Planning Commission at 7:30 P.M. in the Main Chamber of the Town Hall.

Pledge: Deputy Clerk Gondringer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present - Ken Mergen, Roger Nelson, Will Huston, and Marion Gondringer.
Absent: Stephen Saupe and Gerry Kremers.

Approval of Agenda: Nelson moved to approve the agenda. Huston second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Huston moved to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2013 meeting. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Eric Merdan: appeared before the board to have the final plat of Merdan Acres 2 signed.

Public Hearing: 7:45: Knife River Interim Use Permit request:

Mergen called to order the Public Hearing for Knife River for an Interim Use Permit request to operate a temporary asphalt plant at the location of the Ramler/Pierskalla gravel pit located at the NE¼ of section 14, Township 125N, range 30W. Request was for the remainder of the 2013 year and the 2014 year. Plant will be specific to the Stearns County Road #4 project, and may include other contracts that come into play within the timeframe of the permit.

Description of proposal, restrictions, conditions, and parameters were explained. Public input included questions in regard to concerns of odor, smoke, storm water, noise, hours of operation, screening, pollution, and compliance with the county ordinance.

Additionally, Board members addressed damage to Township roadways, hours of truck hauling, bonding, and road dust control. All concerns were addressed by Knife River through their general practices and the monitoring and managing of the plant as per regulations and restrictions set through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Knife River offered to organize a tour of their operating asphalt plant for anyone who would like to take part.

Public hearing was closed. Planning Commission went through the "Finding of Facts" process and discussion took place regarding conditions of use. Motion by Mergen to restrict permitted days of operation to a period of time not to exceed 60 working days. No second to the motion. Motion dies for lack of a second.

Motion by Huston to close "Finding of Facts" process. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Huston to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Interim Use Permit

for Knife River for a temporary asphalt plant located at the Ramler/Pierskalla gravel pit location including the following conditions:

1. Permit will be for the construction season for the year 2014;
2. Hours of asphalt plant operation are from 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 P.M., with a generator startup at 5:30 a.m. to warm equipment, and with all trucks returned to the location by 9:00 P.M.;
3. Days allowed for asphalt plant operation will be restricted to Monday through Friday with no operation on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays;
4. No truck hauling will take place on Township roads;
5. Entrance will be signed according to Stearns County requirements;
6. Traffic signs will be in place as per MNdot and Stearns County requirements for truck hauling;
7. Postcards will be sent out for the start of operations one-week prior to the beginning of operation;
8. Avon Township officials reserve a rite of entry to this land for the purposes of determining compliance of the Interim Use Permit, after providing Knife River personnel proper notification and identification;
9. Knife River will make available, to Board members and Avon residents, a tour of an operating asphalt plant facility upon request;
10. Portable satellites will be provided for employees. Trash will be collected and contained in a suitable receptacle and hauled off site to a appropriate disposal site;
11. All equipment and waste material will be removed from the site at the end of operation;
12. Must comply with all Avon Township and Stearns County requirements;
13. A financial bond of five thousand dollars will be secured;

Motion is seconded by Nelson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Announcements/Reports: None

Adjournment: Nelson moved to adjourn at 9:45 P.M. Huston second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is October 30, 2013 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion J. Gondringer, Deputy Clerk

Ken Mergen, Chair

Date

Attest:

Date