

**New York Mills Zoning Committee
Regular Meeting
May 8, 2014
1:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The regular meeting of the New York Mills Zoning Committee was called to order at 1:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, New York Mills, Minnesota, all members of the Committee having been notified of the meeting. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Chairperson Dianna Wallgren, Jann Lee, Tim Johnson, Jason Schik, Greg Imsande

Members Absent: Mike Parta, Ken Peltier

Staff Present: City Clerk Darla Berry, Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, Zoning Administrator David Delaney

Call to Order: The regular May meeting of the New York Mills Zoning Committee was called to order at 1:05 pm by Chairperson Dianna Wallgren. **A quorum was present.**

Approval of Minutes: **A motion was made by G. Imsande to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2014 meeting, seconded by J. Schik and carried without a dissenting vote.**

Old Business:

A. Billboard Discussion—

Chairperson D. Wallgren revisited the subject of billboards. Committee members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of restricting billboards within City limits. Clerk Berry pointed out that because the City has an ordinance against billboards inside city limits, they are restricted from placing them anywhere, even outside of City limits. She cited the situation where the EDA planned to place billboards on the airport land advertising lots in Country View. The MN DOT would not allow billboards to be placed upon this property because even though it was located out of the city limits, the City had a billboard ordinance regulating placement in city limits. She also pointed out that the stretch of US Highway 10 which lies within city limits is a relatively short stretch, from Cornwell Ave to the VFW; therefore, while it doesn't prevent anyone from putting up a billboard anywhere else along Hwy 10 past New York Mills, it does prevent the City from utilizing a small parcel of land which it is being donated along the Highway 10 corridor, as a place for a sign promoting the community. Discussion ensued. G. Imsande asked how far the DOT's jurisdiction stretches and what the right of way is for Highway 10. Clerk Berry thought their jurisdiction stretched for 2 miles, but was not sure. T. Johnson asked if other aspects could be regulated, such as size or the quality of the sign. Administrative Assistant C. Kopveiler stated that zoning does allow regulation of spacing, size and location, and can include building materials, but cannot regulate the sign's content. G. Imsande asked what the DOT requirements were in relation to the

City's ordinance, since it would take precedence over our regulations. The Zoning Committee felt the DOT should be contacted to see what they require before deciding on whether or not to lift the billboard restrictions.

Meeting Recessed for Public Hearing at 1:30 p.m. A Public Hearing was held to discuss the rezoning of Lots 10 through 15 of Block One, Blower's First Addition in New York Mills from Residential (RB) to Commercial (C).

The Public Hearing was closed at 1:40, with the regular monthly meeting being reopened immediately afterward at 1:41 pm.

New Business:

A. The Zoning Committee discussed the findings of the Public Hearing in which the six parcels located in Blower's First Addition would be changed from Residential B to Commercial, and agreed that a commercial classification was more appropriate for the parcels given their historical and present use. As no one was present at the public hearing to object or comment, the Zoning Committee agreed to recommend this change to the City Council.

A motion was made by J. Schik to recommend that the City Council rezone lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Block One, Blower's First Addition, Section 8, Township 135, Range 37 from Residential B (RB) to Commercial (C) and that the official zoning map of the City of New York Mills be updated to reflect this amendment. The motion was seconded by G. Imsande and carried by unanimous vote.

B. Clerk Berry reported that the EDA is selling another lot in Country View Addition. The buyer plans to put up a spec home on the lot and will be applying for a zoning permit shortly. There was also another inquiry on lots by an interested party. In checking the files, Clerk Berry found that the listing for Country View is not expired, so Real Estate Results would handle that sale. The current sale for the spec home was an excluded party who inquired before the listing was in place.

C. Zoning Committee members discussed two parcels that need clean up, one being the home located on North Walker owned by Habitat for Humanity and the other the old Leaf River Ag Dryer lot owned by Peter Mursu.

D. Chairperson D. Wallgren reported that she had received a complaint about the parking issue with IFS employees along Carlund Parkway. It was felt that the parking was a temporary problem with the high volume of snow and there is an alternate route readily available. IFS' latest expansion did not include increased workforce. If parking continues to be a hazard during the summer months, they will need to be contacted.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting of the Zoning Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Dianna Wallgren at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Cheri Kopveiler
Administrative Assistant/Zoning