

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
May 24, 2010
7:00pm

1) Call to Order

Commission Members Present: Chair Heck, John Strandell, and Mike Stulberg, Bob Pollmann. **Commission Members absent:** Guy Warner and Lora Sandholm and John Watson.

Staff Present: Council Liaison Mayor Fischer, and Senior City Planner Breanne Rothstein.

a) Approval of Agenda

Chair Heck stated, "Hearing no objections, agenda is adopted."

b) Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2010

Motion by Strandell and second by Stulberg to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2010 Regular meeting as presented/amended. Motion carried 4-0-0.

2) Public Hearings:

- a) EXCAVATION/FILL PERMIT – Application from Mark Erichson of WSB & Associates Inc., to import approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material to fill in a depression located across both 630 & 680 Game Farm Road North as part of the Game Farm Road re-construction project, A – Zoning, PID # 03-117-24-33-0005 & 03-117-24-33-0004

Rothstein stated the request is for an excavation fill permit to fill a mining site and the request is being made by the City of Minnetrista and Mr. Reinhart to add up to 51,000 cubic yards to the property from the Game Farm Road project and from the Minnetrista Public Works Site. The cost to move the excess fill from the Game Farm Road project would be higher if the fill has to be hauled further. The subject property has been a mining site and has a hole on the property. The property has had a series of excavation fill permits. Rothstein stated this should be between Metzen (the current owner), Renhardt (the buyer) and the bank. No properties have spoken out against the project. She stated the permit would be valid until December 31, 2010. Staff recommended approval of the permit with the conditions listed in the report dated 5/24/10.

Erichson stated he received a phone call from Judy Simon and she was in favor of the project, however, she wanted to make sure the fill was associated with this project and not on going. Erichson discussed the haul routes and access and stated Public works has excess material behind their facility and they would also like to utilize the fill area to dispose of the material.

Chair Heck questioned the hours. Erichson stated the hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday thru Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Erichson stated he did not feel they would be working on the weekends. Strandell felt they were extensive hours and recommended shortening the hours.

Rothstein stated road construction is disturbing and felt this would be a good time to do this to get a large portion of the hole filled while the construction of Game Farm Road is going on.

Chair Heck stated he is not in favor of any future permits to fill this area.

Erichson stated they would be bringing bids back to the Council at the June 21st meeting for approval.

Mayor Fischer questioned the cost of hauling the fill off site. Erichson stated it would be approximately \$4-\$5 per cubic yard savings not to have to haul it off site. Erichson stated 46,000 cubic yards would be from Game Farm Road and approximately 4,500 cubic yards from Public Works. The completion date for Game Farm Road is November 12, 2010. Erichson stated they would also be looking at using larger equipment to haul the fill.

Chair Heck opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Leroy Alwin (705 North Branch Road) stated he is concerned with percolation rate of the fill and the quality of the fill.

Erichson stated there has been soil borings done and no contamination was identified. If poor materials are encountered they would have to come back for a change order and have the fill trucked to a different site. They will be keeping an eye on the type of fill. He stated the hole will not be completely filled and the fill will percolate. The area is still a depression so there is no runoff going off of the site.

Chair Heck closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Chair Heck asked if the hours are set. Stulberg felt the hours could be requested to be altered. Rothstein stated the current hours are what are set in code; however, a stricter time frame can be set. Stulberg recommended possibly taking away the Saturday hours. Stulberg also noted dust control could be added to the permit. Erichson stated calcium chloride is in the contract to keep the dust down if the contractor decided to use this site. Rothstein stated there would be inspectors on the project on a daily basis because this is a road project.

Pollmann stated water would also keep the dust down. He felt if the hours were lessened the project could be extended and also the weather plays a part in that. He would recommend larger haul vehicles for hauling the fill.

Strandell felt there should be more in the contract regarding dust abatement from the road to the site and he recommended cutting the hours back. Chair Heck questioned the structure of the road going down to the pit and if it can haul heavy equipment. Erichson stated if the contractor uses that roadway they would have to improve the access. Chair Heck questioned if the property boundary would be looked at and stated the driveway going to the pit is partially on his property line. Erichson felt it would be 200 – 300 feet from the property line. Erichson stated he could look at the property line with Heck before construction begins. Rothstein stated the plan does not show utilizing the southern route.

Stulberg stated the hours were reduced on the last permit for this parcel. Rothstein stated she did not recommend any changes because the hours are the same as the hours for the construction project for Game Farm Road.

Erichson stated if Saturday hours were cut it would also restrict the Game Farm Road project.

Stulberg questioned condition #5. Rothstein stated Game Farm Road has already been tested.

Strandell recommended limiting the hours on Saturdays to a six hour day and requested to add more information on the dust abatement.

Motion by Strandell and second by Stulberg to recommend to City Council approval of the EXCAVATION/FILL PERMIT – Application from Mark Erichson of WSB & Associates Inc., to import approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material to fill in depression located across both 630 & 680 Game Farm Road North as part of the Game Farm Road re-construction project, A – Zoning, PID # 03-117-24-33-0005 & 03-117-24-33-0004. With added conditions of Saturday hours of 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and more wording about dust abatement in the pit area and through the driveway. Motion carried 3-0-0 (Chair Heck abstaining).

A resident recommended having starting time of 8:00 a.m. to deep from backing up the morning commute.

Chair Heck would like to abstain from voting because of a conflict of interest.

3) Informational Items:

a) Staff Reports

Tree planting was started last Saturday and will hopefully be done by the end of this week.

b) Council Reports

Council looked at Woodland Cove and they will be starting to break it down and look at the parks.

4) Adjournment

Motion by Stulberg and second by Pollmann to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Haarstad
City Clerk