

Town of Saratoga Public Hearing and Plan Commission

October 13 ,2021

Plan Commission Members	
Vacant, Chair	Dave Barth
Excused, Co-chair	Josh McDonald
Tom Grygo, Secretary	Gordon Wipperfurth, Alternate

Public Hearing

Grygo opened the public hearing at 6:30 PM on October 13, 2021, to receive comments considering the request of Ruesch Companies for a Planned Unit Development/Rezoning Request to allow eight duplexes, located in section 32, T21N, R5E, lot 1 Wood County CSM 1445, parcel # 1800551, consisting of 9.62 acres fronting on Silver Creek Trail, Wood County

Public Comments

Shane Ruesch said he spoke with the Rome Fire Dept. and committed to a proper turn-around on the west end of the entry road if the project is approved. He presented three options for consideration.

Nancy Koch asked is the driveway permit from DOT is affected by the addition of the turn-around. Grygo said no the DOT permit is for access to HWY 13 only.

Rob Borski said he would like Plan Commission members state their reason(s) for approving a zoning change. He cited Zoning Ordinance Section 9.1-9.6 for reasons against the zoning change stating that the proposed construction does not meet ordinance requirements. He said all existing residents are unanimously opposed to the project.

Karen Cashen said she is working with DNR and water quality to eliminate or reduce soil erosion on the 10-mile creek. She said the project would have a negative impact on erosion, wells and the 10-mile creek; the project is not consistent with existing single-family use, opposed to zoning change and project.

Brian Hansen wants to maintain rural land use and feels project will hurt land use and negatively affect property values, against project.

Aaron Vruwink, attorney for Shane Ruesch, said the project has met requirements under ordinance and must be approved and quoted from State Statutes regarding CUP requests.

Duane Hardy argued against PUD adjacent to residential.

Curt Erickson opposed to project.

Grygo asked three times for additional comments, hearing none the hearing was adjourned at 6:47 PM

Plan Commission

Grygo opened the Plan Commission meeting immediately following the public hearing, the meeting was officially noticed.

Approval of the September 8 minutes was not on the agenda, they will appear on the November 10 agenda.

Ruesch PUD/Rezoning request

Motion by Wipperfurth to approve PUD and rezoning, no second, motion dies for lack of second.

Motion by Barth to recommend decline of PUD/Rezoning request by Town Board, second by McDonald
Barth, yes, McDonald, yes, Grygo, yes, Wipperfurth, No.

Dan, Inc. CSM

Motion by Barth to recommend approval by the Town Board as the project meets zoning requirements,
second by Wipperfurth, motion approved

Mike Zurfluh Pirco clubhouse

Zurfluh said he is not required to provide a storm shelter, wants to keep the shelter, and rent the basement on a short-term basis. Barth said the property is not zoned commercial. Fuehrer said the clubhouse is not constructed to residential use standards, alterations are required and may require a CUP for rental. Fuehrer will check for more information regarding sanitary and well, plus residential dwelling requirements.

ARPA or MFL funds

The commission members gave their ranking of proposed project ideas to Bill Leichtnam, he will provide this information to the Town Board on Oct. 20.

Patrick McClain 804 Ranger Rd. He has purchased the former costume shop at this location and wants to add bathroom space to an existing building and use the building as a sleeping space for guests. Fuehrer said a sleeping space is considered a dwelling and only one is allowed per parcel. The property is three acres and could be separated to accommodate a second residence with a bathroom. No formal action was taken by the members as this item was not on the agenda.

Saratoga/Rome Wastewater Meeting

Snyder and Wipperfurth from Saratoga attended the meeting. Wipperfurth said Rome wants to expand sewer to Port Edwards thru Saratoga. We need to decide if we want to participate. Wisconsin Rapids doesn't want to be involved. Rome and Saratoga are eligible for significant funding. The question is does our town need/want a sewer? Wipperfurth will get cost breakdown from GES for three options being considered and bring to the next meeting.

Bicycle Trail

Wipperfurth attended a meeting with Port Edwards regarding trail signage. Saratoga would use the routes shown on a map drawn by Pam Pitrowski. Saratoga will get four signs from Wood County to be installed by Saratoga. The signs will show aerial view of available routes and points of interest. The Town will need to budget for road painting bicycle route symbols and intermittent needed route signs.

Ward Maps

Motion by Barth to recommend Town Board approval of the proposed ward map, second by McDonald,
motion approved.

Information from commission members.

Fuehrer said she is resigning as Zoning Administrator effective 1/1/2022. She provided a list of her job description for the committee to review and prepare an advertisement for the position.

Rob Borski thanked the Plan Commission and Town Board for their work.

The next meeting is November 10, 2021.

Motion by Barth to adjourn second by McDonald, meeting adjourned 9:10 PM