

**New York Mills Zoning Committee
Regular Meeting
April 19, 2016
1:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The regular meeting of the New York Mills Zoning Committee was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. in the City Hall Party Room, New York Mills, Minnesota, all members of the Committee having been notified of the meeting. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Chairperson Dianna Wallgren, Ken Peltier, Jeff Oakland, Mike Parta

Members Absent: Greg Imsande, Jann Lee, Tim Johnson,

Staff Present: Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, City Clerk Darla Berry

Call to Order: The regular April meeting of the New York Mills Zoning Committee was called to order at 1:11 pm by Chairperson Dianna Wallgren. **A quorum was present.**

Approval of Minutes: **A motion was made by Jeff Oakland to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2016 meeting, seconded by Mike Parta and carried without a dissenting vote.**

Old Business:

A. Ordinance Revisions—

1. Steel Fence Posts—

Zoning Administrator Dave Delaney recently requested that the Zoning Committee look at restricting steel fence posts as an approved fencing material in residential zones. Currently the ordinance does not address them specifically. Jeff Oakland pointed out that chain link fence has steel posts, so the Committee needed to distinguish between those and other steel posts such as t-posts, u-posts and round rebar posts. Discussion ensued. Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler added that putting up temporary fences such as snow fence should be an exception. She pointed out that some of the large parcels on the edge of town with large animals could possibly use steel posts along with barbed wire depending on their relation to other residential lots. She suggested wording for exceptions to include: “Steel fence posts are not allowed in residential areas except parcels exceeding 5 acres in size and for temporary fencing” She will work on adding a phrase to exempt appropriate accompanying posts with chain link fencing.

2. Chickens/Honeybees—

Chairperson Dianna Wallgren asked the Zoning Committee to think about how they feel about chickens in the City limits. There have been a few inquiries in past years. She stated that there is a City Ordinance-- #113 (Animal Ordinance) which currently restricts small animals such as chickens to residences of 5 acres or more in size. If this regulation were to be changed in Zoning, this ordinance would also have to be modified. Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler included some information and samples from the City of Duluth. A discussion ensued. There were

points the Zoning Committee liked, including limiting the number of chickens, excluding roosters and placing setback requirements to other residences. No action was taken at this time. Honeybees were addressed but no action was taken on them.

3. Demolition Permits—

Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler submitted samples of several Demolition Permit Applications along with a newly proposed application form for New York Mills. Ken Peltier asked why the cost of the project was required. After discussion it was decided to remove this from the application. Fees were discussed and members felt there should continue to be no charge for demolition permits. Discussion was held regarding permit fees for other permits. No action was taken on this.

A motion was made by Ken Peltier to adopt the newly proposed Demolition Permit Application and to begin using it immediately. Motion was seconded by Mike Parta and carried without a dissenting vote.

New Business:

A. Zoning Administrator's Report—

Zoning Administrator Dave Delaney was not present at the meeting; however Clerk Darla Berry gave an update on the Annexation process and progress on Dollar General's construction. The Otter Tail County Recorder was not willing to record the deed as there is a life estate and another part owner who is deceased which need to be removed from the property. They are working on resolving this issue. Demolition and construction permits have been approved contingent upon this document being recorded.

Darla stated that a permit has been issued for the Park Board to put up a new park shelter hereafter referred to as "The Barn" in the Sculpture Park. The Park Board has enlisted Public Works Director Kyle Mattson to oversee the approval of bills for this project as funds are still being raised.

B. Other New Business—

Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler gave a list of permits issued since the last meeting, which included Jann Lee/Whistle Stop Bed & Breakfast-Sign Permit, Bryce Blickenstaff-Storage Shed, Aaron Weatherhead-fence, David Nelson-Home Addition, The Barn-park shelter, and Jeffery Vaughan-Concrete Slab/Deck/Steps.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting of the Zoning Committee will be held on Tuesday May 24th 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Jeff Oakland to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 pm, seconded by Ken Peltier and carried without a dissenting vote.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Cheri Kopveiler
Administrative Assistant/Zoning