

**New York Mills Zoning Committee
Regular Meeting
July 25, 2023
2:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The regular meeting of the New York Mills Zoning Committee was scheduled for 2:30 p.m. in the City Hall Meeting 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, Jerry Nesland, Brent Olson, Keith Van Dyke, Richard Grotheer

Members Absent: Greg Imsande, Tim Johnson

Staff Present: Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, Zoning Administrator Kyle Mattson

Call to Order: Chairperson Dianna Wallgren called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm. **A quorum was present.**

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the February 21, 2023 regular meeting were presented.

A motion was made by Jerry Nesland to approve the minutes and seconded by Brent Olson. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Approval of Agenda: **A motion was made by Rick Grotheer to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Keith Van Dyke and carried by unanimous vote.**

Old Business: South Point Update—

Jerry Nesland reported that the infrastructure is in at South Point and seeding of turf is being done. Construction of the 60-unit apartment building should begin in August or September. The City has received a purchase agreement on the two multi-family lots on the south side of Phase 1. The Otter Tail Co. HRA plans to purchase the lots and build two affordable senior housing duplexes. Sale is contingent upon the HRA receiving grant monies for the project. The lots would need to be re-platted into 120' lots from the current 100' size. The Lions Club met last Thursday and discussed the location of the walking trail. A 5K Color Run will be held there in August. Fencing has been ordered for the new dog park on Willow Creek Lane. Just a fence will be installed now, but eventually other structures will be built and the trail will be connected.

New Business: Well Ordinance-

Zoning Administrator Kyle Mattson is working on an ordinance which would prohibit the drilling of deep wells in city limits. This ordinance is a result of regulations coming down from Minnesota Rural Water which require that it be part of the Zoning Ordinance. This does not include

sandpoints. Mattson will continue to work on developing the ordinance to be adopted later this year.

Native Grasses-

The Zoning Committee discussed new legislation which will allow the growth of native grasses on residential lots. Chairperson Dianna Wallgren commented that the City is waiting for guidance from the League of Minnesota Cities for the Zoning Ordinance.

Cannabis Businesses-

Legislation has also been put in place to allow the use of cannabis products in Minnesota. There will need to be regulations such as conditional use and location of cannabis businesses in relation to zoning. The League of Minnesota Cities is working on guidance. Very little guidance is in place at the time of this law being passed.

Otter Tail County Commissioners will be holding a meeting to consider passing a resolution for a moratorium on licensing of cannabis businesses on August 22nd. If passed, the City Council will opt to follow the County's moratorium at their next Council meeting in September.

Tiny Homes-

Legislation allowing the use of tiny homes on religious institution property has been passed. The Zoning Ordinance will need to be adjusted to allow for this, once guidance has been issued from the League.

Zoning Administrator's Report—

Zoning Administrator Kyle Mattson reported that there are currently two zoning applications for new houses being approved. There are 13 lots remaining in Country View Addition. The apartment complex and two tri-plexes that are planned will also provide new housing this year.

Mattson asked the Zoning Committee for their thoughts on a request to use the City's approach to the City's lift station in Country View as a second driveway to a shed on a newly purchased lot. The consensus was to not allow use of the easement and require that they install their own approach on their lot.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Zoning Committee will be held on Tuesday, August 22nd, beginning with a Public Hearing at 3:05 p.m. to discuss assigning the zoning classification to newly annexed property known as Southside Addition. The meeting will be held at the City Center Council Chambers at 118 North Main.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Cheri Kopveiler
Administrative Assistant/Zoning