

PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TOWN OF VERONA

February 7, 2017 6:00 PM

Town Hall, 7669 County Highway PD, Verona, WI 53593

Present: Geller, Maxwell, Enburg, Dreger and Duerst

Absent: none

Staff Present: Administrator/Planner Arnold, Clerk/Treasurer Wright, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Dresser

Also Present: see sign in sheet

1. Call to Order/Approval of the agenda – Mark Geller called the Public Hearing for the proposed Firearms Discharge Ordinance to order at 6:00 PM. Dreger moved to approve the agenda; 2nd by Duerst. Motion carried. Chair Geller stated that those wanting to speak need to raise their hand to be recognized by the Chair, should stand and state their name and address when called upon, and share their concerns so that all can hear.
2. Public Hearing on the repeal of Ordinance 69-3 regulating the discharging or firing of certain firearms and replacement with new Firearms Discharge Ordinance 2017-02 – Diane Kammer of 3105 Woods Road sought clarification regarding the proposed distance of 100' minimum distance from a neighboring property line. It was noted that this minimum distance applied if the owners of neighboring properties did not give permission. It was noted that if one neighbor gave permission and the other did not, then the property where the firearm discharge took place could be less than 200' wide. Jason Penn of 3092 Timber Lane was also confused whether permission of both neighbors was required if the width of a lot was less than 200' total. It was again noted that permission from one neighbor and not the other would reduce the minimum distance to 100' from the neighbor who did not grant permission. Karen Cox of 2999 Timber Lane stated that she and her husband own a property greater than 11 acres in size where they do target practice. She wondered if the Town has received complaints to justify the proposed ordinance. Doug Maxwell responded that the Town has a variety of lot sizes and shapes not all of which are suitable for containing all shots fired. Bill Enters of 2003 County Highway PB stated that he has a 26 acre parcel and finds the 500 yard minimum radius (changed to 1,500' in the draft presented at the Public Hearing) from the point of discharge to a neighboring residence without permission of those property owners to exceed the proposed two hour maximum per day as absurd. He noted that a shot will typically travel only 200-300 yards. Mike Duerst noted the provision was more a matter of the nuisance of the noise, not the distance the projectile travels. A male who did not identify himself stated that he would be hard-pressed to sight-in a bad scope within the two hour maximum that is proposed. Frank Acker of 3325 Meadow Road was in attendance with questions about any ramification of the ordinance upon the Denner Shooting Range (private) in Verona; in reply, it was noted that per item H of the proposed Ordinance, established sport shooting ranges are exempt from the proposed standards.
3. Chair Geller asked if there were any additional comments; he repeated his call for comments. Hearing none, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:23 PM. This item will be added to the Regular Town Board agenda for March 2017 possible action; without objection.
4. The Regular Town of Verona Board meeting resumed at 6:24 PM.
5. Announcements
 - a. Welcome of the Dane County Sherriff's Deputies – Tim Schuetz introduced Chris Moore the new Community Deputy. He also mentioned that two of the officers assigned to the town were injured and another retired. Mike Duerst asked if the deputies had any issues with the proposed firearms ordinance, and they replied no.
6. Public Comment – None.
7. Discussion and approval of minutes from December 29th and January 12th – Motion by Duerst to approve both sets of minutes. Second by Dreger. Motion carried.
8. Reports and Recommendations
 - a. Plan Commission:
 - i. Review and action re: final CSM for Heartland Farm Sanctuary (CSM #9959) – Motion to approve by Dreger. Second by Duerst. Dreger; aye, Maxwell: abstain, Enburg: aye, Duerst: aye, Geller: aye. Motion carried.
 - ii. Update on the Comprehensive Plan – Doug Maxwell gave an update on upcoming meetings.
 - iii. Discussion and action re: Dane County Ordinance Amendment (OA) #67 pertaining to Conditional Use Permit Appeals – Doug Maxwell gave an overview of the amendment which was proposed by Dane County and made a motion to approve it. Second by Duerst. The amendment would have appeals go to a Board of Adjustment rather than the County Board of Supervisors. There was a question about whether or not the County Executive would appoint members of the public. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Public Works:

- i. Update on 2017 road projects – Manfred Enburg explained that MSA was working on cost estimates for improving roads in Hillside Heights, DeMarco Trail, and some regarding of ditching along Horseshoe Bend and Range Trail. Doug Maxwell added that Timber Lane is in poor shape. Manfred mentioned that the City of Fitchburg has asked the Town to put work on Fitchrona Road into the Town’s capital improvement plan. Mike Duerst said one mower had arrived.
 - c. Financial Sustainability: The committee had not met, but Laura Dreger asked Amanda to set up a meeting for the next month.
 - d. Natural and Recreational Areas Committee: The next meeting was scheduled for the 22nd and includes a presentation from Darryl Morrison about landscape concepts for the town hall.
 - e. Ordinance Committee:
 - i. Discussion and possible action re: firearms discharge ordinance – There was some review of the comments heard at the public hearing and it was decided that action would be scheduled for the firearms ordinance and associated citation ordinance at the next meeting.
 - ii. Discussion and possible action re: street light ordinance – Action was deferred until the Public Works committee reviewed the ordinance.
 - f. EMS Commission: Mike Duerst reported that runs are up. The new station will need to be staffed with seven paramedics by June 2018.
 - g. Town Chair:
 - i. Update on move and sale of old town hall - Mark Geller reported that the closing for the old town hall was scheduled for March 6th (after this meeting, the buyer was not able to close due to financing issues).
 - ii. Discussion and possible action re: rental agreement – There was a general discussion about the risks associated with renting (potential damage and liability). There was also a discussion of what size and types of groups should be allowed to rent. It was decided that the space should only be rented to town residents. It was also decided that the maximum capacity of 228 people was too high. No formal action was taken.
 - h. Supervisors: Doug Maxwell discussed the school referendum and pointed out that if it passes any potential increased in the town levy may be too much for people to bear in addition to the school levy. Doug also encouraged the board to attend the Dane County zoning re-write committee meeting on February 20th.
 - i. Clerk/Treasurer: John Wright reported on tax collection wrap up, the election, and the audit.
 - j. Planner/Administrator: Amanda stressed that the staff had worked really hard on tax wrap up, the move, the volunteer party, election, and audit.
9. Approval of payment of bills – Motion by Duerst. Second by Dreger. Motion carried.
10. Adjourn – Motion by Dreger. Second by Duerst. Motion carried at 8: 37 PM.

Approved: April 5, 2017

Submitted by: Amanda Arnold, Planner/Administrator and John Wright, Clerk/Treasurer