

Meeting Minutes for October 21, 2015 (**Agenda items** are in **bold** text)
4:00 P.M. @ Ishpeming Senior Center

Meeting Called to order for the Ishpeming Zoning Board of Appeals by Chairperson Elyse Bertucci at 4:00 P.M.

Roll Call – Present: David Johnson, Evelyn Valente–Heikkila, Dick Burke, and Elyse Bertucci.

Absent: Gabe Seelen

Public present: Paul Luehmann, Kim Niemi, William Phillips, Doug Windsand, Brad Morrison, Terry Weiger, Erwin Holliday, as well as other Ishpeming residents and Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator.

Public Discussion – None.

Public Hearings

1. **ZV 2015-03**

Elyse read the legal notice from the Mining Journal.

Paul Luehmann explained that he purchased this vacant lot for a garden and boat storage purposes as it was close to his home at 508 E. High St. In order to protect his boat, he is asking to place a 6' high chain link fence 1' off the sidewalks. The height and placement of the fence require a variance.

Kim Niemi expressed her concerns involving the blocking the visibility for automobile traffic. Upon being informed that the proposed fence would be a 6' high chain link fence, she indicated that her concerns were addressed.

William Phillips, 703 W. Second St., furnished a letter expressing concerns about a 6' high fence as he felt a lower fence would allow better monitoring of the site to prevent vandalism. He suggested a 4' fence height would be better.

Brad Morrison, owner of a garage immediately East of the parcel in question, stated his garage is used for cold storage and is 4' from the sidewalk. The proposed fence would block access to the West side of his garage since the fence would extend to the garage on the South side of the lot and an existing fence running N-S on the North side of the lot. He stated his intent to re-roof the garage in the spring of 2016, but his access will be restricted. Based upon preliminary measurements taken by the applicant, the garage may be a few feet into his property. Paul stated verbally that he would not restrict access for Brad Morrison for repair purposes.

Doug Windsand of 518 N. Second furnished two photographs and a letter in opposition to a 6' high fence. Elyse read the letter aloud. Doug stated that the glare of the fence would ruin the only view out of his house and make him feel that he was living next to Camp Cusino, a state prison. He also questioned the need for security as most of the neighbors live there year-round and questioned potential damage to the fence by sidewalk plowing. Doug stated that he would not object to a 4' high wood fence.

Terry Weiger, 319 E. High St., expressed concerns that snow plowing would damage the fence and also supported a wood fence.

Paul Luehmann stated that Marquette Fence Company proposed to install a heavy commercial grade fence, that he does not anticipate any glare issues, and that he has kept the grass trimmed all summer on the parcel.

After all public comment was closed, Board of Appeals members discussed the comments and correspondence furnished.

The following Findings of Fact were noted;

1. Status of Marquette County Resource Management Digital Zoning Map Review

Al indicated that he'd completed his initial review and mark-up, provided it to the County staff and was awaiting their updated Zoning Map for the final review. Progress is being made, albeit slowly!

2. Ishpeming Planning Commission Ranking of the Top Three Development/ Re-development Sites

With Five of Nine members present, Gabe conducted a tally of Commissioners with the following results (Votes, Project):

5 / Former Bell Hospital
3 / Malton Road Corridor
3 / First and Cleveland
3 / Main and Pearl
3 / Lake Bancroft Area

All other projects had lower rankings and are not listed.

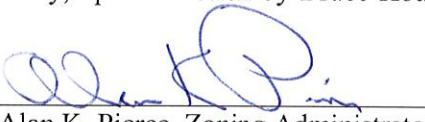
3. Zoning Ordinance Review Committee

No progress.

J. Correspondence – none.

K. Meeting Adjournment was passed unanimously, upon a motion by Bruce Houghton supported by Harry Weikel, at 9:28 P.M.

By:


Alan K. Pierce, Zoning Administrator