

The Iron County Comprehensive Planning/Land & Zoning Committee met at the Iron County Courthouse in Hurley, WI on Tuesday, March 20, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Matson at 2:00 p.m. Proper publication of the meeting was established. Committee members present were Pat Hanson, Vice Chairman Brad Matson, John Sendra, John Smith; Iron County Board Chairman Joe Pinardi and Administrator Erika Roeder. Also present were County Board Members Opal Roberts and Bill Thomas; Jason Laumann and Cody Kamrowski from Northwest Regional Planning Commission; and Steve Schurter and Jean Thomas; and Richard Jenkins of the Ironwood Daily Globe.

Minutes: Due to not having the previous meeting minutes in committee members packets, a motion to move the approval of the minutes further down on the agenda was made by Sendra/Smith; carried 5-0.

Public Hearing, Review the Asset Based Community Development prepared by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission: Public comment opened by Matson. Discussion began with the developments at Copper Peak and its potential spillover into Iron County. The city of Hurley is already seeing renewed interest in previously vacant and underutilized establishments. A member of the public commented that the changing banking landscape bodes well for future developments. Transportation discussions revealed two new buses and a van added by grant funding and questioned the possibility of interfacing with the Blue Bus System in Michigan. It was established that the plan does not prohibit the possibility of a detention center. Also discussed were the possibility of a mental health care facility possibly with possible collaboration with the Aspirus system. Public discussion was then closed. Discussion then motion to recommend the plan to the full County Board by Hanson/Smith; carried 5-0.

Minutes: Minutes were provided to the committee members and Matson allowed time for review. Motion to approve the minutes of the 2/20/2018 Zoning Committee meeting by Hanson/Smith; carried 5-0.

Discuss the former Thomas Service Station site: Presentation by Roeder on the progress of the REI remedial plan. REI requested information on the end use of the property as that may impact final details on how the site should be reclaimed. Discussed was the possibility of the City of Montreal assuming ownership as a potential park or green space. Concern was expressed that the proximity to the river necessitates proper establishment and erosion control. Also discussed was the possibility of involving the conservationist. Roeder was instructed to consult with the conservationist about planting options, to contact REI and obtain options and potential costs to Iron County, and to contact the City of Montreal about accepting the property post remediation.

Discuss Plat Book Pricing: Discussion then motion to sell remaining 2015 plat books at \$25 each and new sell new 2018 plat books at \$35 each by Sendra/Smith; carried 5-0.

Annual Report: Permit numbers were down and revenue fell below 2016 levels. Poor weather conditions in calendar year 2017 and the sanitary maintenance program detecting large numbers of failing systems in previous years were among the reasons discussed. Motion to forward the annual report to the full County Board by Hanson/Smith; carried 5-0.

Public Comment: A Montreal resident expressed doubt about the City of Montreal accepting the remediated Thomas Service station property. Matson discussed adding “the possibility of a County Board quorum” as boilerplate language to the Zoning Committee meeting agenda.

Bills: Motion to approve the bills by Sendra/Smith; carried 5-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 16, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn: by Smith/Sendra; carried 5-0.

A recording of this meeting is available upon request