

**PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING
May 4, 2021**

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by the Chairman: J. Bidwell.

Roll Call: Members present: J. Bidwell, B. Fay, R. Kurkechian, S. Lang, D. Matuszak, C. Smith, C. Winters

Guests: 4

Approval of Agenda: R. Kurkechian moved to approve agenda as prepared. C. Winters seconded. All ayes; agenda approved.

Approval of the Minutes: (March 2, 2021) B. Fay motioned to approve the minutes as written. D. Matuszak seconded the motion. All ayes: motion approved.

Comments from Audience: (3 minutes per audience member) None

Correspondence: None

Public Hearing Opened @ 7:20 p.m:

- Richard & Beth Butler requested to install a 4' fence for overall safety concerns of people and pets between their and the neighbor's property. The fence is requested to be installed 215' along the lot line to the edge of Long Lake.
- R. Butler described the circumstances that necessitated the fence. He has a good relationship with his neighbors; however, their dogs do not get along. R. Butler's dogs are young and one of them attacked the neighbor's dog. It was scary and they are trying to avoid that to happen again.
- After reviewing several options with Mr. Butler, the board members noted that owners are required to maintain control of dogs is necessary and a fence may not be 100% prevention as the dogs can go around the fence at the water.

Public Hearing Closed for Deliberations @ 7:45 p.m.

- The request was not unreasonable but everyone agreed a practical difficulty to the land wasn't identified. The board offered other suggestions to control the dogs, i.e. electric fence, hedges between the properties, etc.
- C. Winters motioned the variance request be denied. B. Fay seconded the motion. All ayes; request denied.

Reports:

- **TWP Board: (S. Lang)** S. Lang gave a brief synopsis that a Fireworks Ordinance was approved from the Planning Commission and will be reviewed at the May 10, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting. He has been busy with short-term rental issues and preparing for the May 10 meeting to further discuss the Ordinance Amendment to allow short-term rentals in Presque Isle Township.

- **Zoning Administrator: (S. Lang)** S. Lang commented he has issued housing permits and permits for accessory structures. Has been monitoring a Rivendell street camper. The camper said he would be moving back to Montana soon. If he doesn't leave, S. Lang will issue a violation with a \$500. fine. He is also looking at two gazebos which may or may not be in violation of the ordinance. Will be reviewing the definition of gazebo.
- **Planning Commission Board (R. Kurkechian)** *See attached report.*

New Business:

- J. Bidwell would like more productive site visits for the ZBA members. It would be beneficial if lot lines were staked out for set-back issues, where septic fields are located, the ordinary high water mark and any other conditions the property may have. The homeowner can stake it out if it is done correctly.
A check list should be used for Rezoning, ZBA and the Planning Commission variances.
S. Lang will assist with the forms and will make graphs and applications for stake placement for the July 7, 2021 ZBA Meeting
- D. Matuszak mentioned he found the training the Michigan Association of Planners presented was very beneficial. Training included how to make a motion correctly with effective dates and specifics. Other members of the ZBA were interested to get the training too.

Comment from Audience member: None

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Meeting Reminder: The ZBA will meet again on Tuesday, July 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm for the regular scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Bev Huard, Administrative Assistant