

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 14, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Jeff Fore, Allan Anderson and Bob Lott were physically present. Commissioner Ed Whitcomb was unable to attend. A quorum was present. County Clerk Gene Treseler, County Treasurer Jackie Horn and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also present.

Chairperson Kirby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lott moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the December 10, 2013 regular Board meeting; December 19, 2013 special Board meeting; approval of the Menard County Community Services monthly report for December 2013; approval of monthly department expense report for November & December 2013; and approval of payment to FWAI Architects for services rendered related to the Courthouse Roof Project. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Hearing of Citizens (Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action)

Jerry Tice, legal counsel for Ben and Beth Kiningham/David and Pam Williams and speaking in relation to Paul and Dana Ingle’s proposed application for a special use permit to establish an agri-business/public riding stable, expressed concerns related to what conditions of approval were placed on the special use permit or in how the conditions of approval language may be written. He informed that the application informed that the fundraiser events were to be over by 10 p.m. but that was not stated in any of the proposed conditions.

Beth Kiningham, expressed concern regarding the use of Facebook to disparage the Kiningham’s and Williams’ concerns about the potential impact on their property of this development. She submitted a copy of comments made on Facebook. She questioned where the manure would be stored if the discussed, proposed riding arena was built.

Molly Hall Buehner expressed concern regarding comments being posted on Facebook toward the Kiningham’s and Williams’. She expressed concern that Dana Ingle had represented that she wanted to work with the neighbors but was now refusing to meet with the neighbors and that a campaign of “character assassination” was undertaken instead. She informed that Beth Kiningham was a retired school teacher and her concerns had nothing to do with trying to hurt children as alleged in many of the Facebook comments. She stated that the concerns were about a property line dispute and the proper handling of manure waste.

Diane Kube informed that she had just learned of the issues surrounding the Ingle’s proposed application for a special use permit yesterday and was planning on volunteering her services to Bright Star. She spent time expressing concerns and questioning whether the Board might be opening the County up to a lawsuit by potentially approving the application.

John Lusz also expressed concerns about the Ingle’s application.

OLD BUSINESS

(Tabled from 12/10/2013 Board meeting) Ordinance – Approve/Deny Special Use Permit Application (13-03SUP). APPLICATION FROM PAUL & DANA INGLE, DBA BRIGHT STAR EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, WHICH SEEKS A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING AN AGRI-BUSINESS (PUBLIC RIDING STABLE), AS AN ALLOWABLE ACCESORY USE TO A FARM, IN THE RURAL RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT 13922 STATE HWY. 97, PETERSBURG, IL. A BRIEF LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR THE SUBJECT PARCELS ARE AS FOLLOWS: Section 1, Township 17, Range 7, Northwest Quarter of Section 1. THE TWO, ADJACENT PARCELS PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS ARE 16-01-100-005 & 16-01-100-006.

Paul Ingle, applicant for a special use permit to establish an agri-business/public riding stable, spent time addressing the Board including informing that conditions of approval that had been presented by County Coordinator Duncan is what they were agreeable to. Commissioner Lott questioned whether the 10:00 p.m. restriction on when the fundraiser/special events would end, per the application, would be agreeable. Mr. Ingle informed that they do not want to abrogate property rights.

Mr. Tice was recognized and questioned the trustworthiness of the applicant and informed that the application informed that that no more than 2 fundraiser events would be held which end at 10:00 p.m. and that should be upheld. He also stated that the condition to remove the manure off-site should be included with some work on the language to clarify what “weather permitting” means. Mr. Ingle informed that he found it offensive that they had been characterized as untrustworthy.

Mr. Ingle and Mr. Tice engaged in discussions with the Board about agreeable conditions of approval. Dana Ingle informed that she could agree that no more than 2 fundraiser events would be held which end at 10:00 p.m.

A medical emergency occurred at this point in the meeting involving Chairman Kirby (approximately 6:57 p.m.).

Adjournment

After time expired due to attending to the medical emergency, Commissioner Fore moved to table all items on the agenda and adjourn the meeting between approximately 7:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The motion carried with Commissioners Lott, Fore and Anderson voting “aye”.