Coordinated Development In MOWER COUNTY
AUSTIN, MINNESOTA
55912
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AUSTIN-MOWER COUNTY PLANNING DEPT.

January 26, 1978

MINUTES OF THE 26th MEETING OF THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. E. Chesebrough, William Schlichter

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kenneth Trom

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Huang

The 26th meeting of the Mower County Board of Adjustment was called to order at 4:20 p.m. on January 26, 1978 by Chairman Chesebrough in the Commissioners Conference Room of the Mower County Courthouse.

The only petition was presented by Mr. William Sheely for a 130 square foot sign variance to allow him to construct two 160 square foot business signs for his campground, located in the N½, NW¼ Section 6, Marshall Township. Section 14-63(d) of the Mower County Zoning Ordinance provides that business signs are allowed in a rural zone, but would have to be within 30 square feet in surface area. The petitioner felt that the required 30 square foot sign will be too small to be read by travellers from I-90, and wished to construct two 160 square foot business signs to advertise his camp ground.

After a short discussion, the Board of Adjustment felt that:

1) Strict application of the provisions of the zoning ordinance would cause undue hardship, because the physical distance involved between I-90 and the petitioner's property would result in difficulty in reading a sign of 30 square feet.
2) The campground is located in an area which has been designated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation as a scenic area. Billboards and commercial signs are prohibited within the scenic areas. Therefore, the petitioner can only erect business signs on the premises.
3) The granting of the variance would only allow two 160 square foot signs be constructed but does not allow the signs to be located wherever the petitioner desires.

Chairman Chesebrough read a letter from the County Engineer, indicating the location of signs should be out of the road right-of-way. A memo was also read concerning the state regulations on the location of signs near the interstate highway. The state regulations require that business signs can only be erected on property which is contiguous to the property used for such business.

On a motion by Mr. Schlichter, and seconded by Mr. Chesebrough, the Board of Adjustment granted the 130 square feet sign variance from the required 30 square feet (Section 14-63(d)) to allow Mr. Sheely to construct two 160 square foot signs, subject to the approval of the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the County Engineer as to the location of the signs. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the 25th meeting were approved as mailed on a motion by Mr. Schlichter and seconded by Mr. Chesebrough. The motion passed unanimously,

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Huang

Christopher Huang, Secretary
Mower County Board of Adjustment