

Mower County Planning Commission

Minutes Mower County Planning Commission

Members Present: Diane Benson, Meri Jo Lonergan, Sheldon Lukes, Brian McAlister, Gary Nemitz, Don Olson, Keith Voorhees.

Members Absent: Harold Boverhuis

Others Present: Lee Bonorden (Austin Daily Herald), Citizens, Daryl W. Franklin.

Chair Gary Nemitz called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 1997, in the Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave, NE, Austin, Minnesota. Minutes of the February 25, 1997; meeting were approved as mailed on a motion by Don Olson, seconded by Keith Voorhees. The motion passed unanimously. It was stated that the Mower County Board of Commissioners will be meeting on May 6, 1997, at 1:30 p.m. at the Austin City Hall to make the final decision on permits forwarded from this Planning Commission meeting.

Conditional Use Permit #526 - U.S. Sitelease, Inc./Laverne Kehret. CUP applicable to Section 14-51(d) of the Mower County Zoning Ordinance for a guyed structure (communication tower) in Section 33, Lansing Township. Reference was made to the site investigation performed by Don Olson and Harold Boverhuis on April 23, 1997. Staff report was presented. Mr. Randy McCune discussed the proposal for the tower and how it would serve communication needs. Handouts were distributed on PCS (personal communications services). PCS is digital and not analog. It is the wire communication system. Doug Thompson (Lansing Township Representative) expressed concern on the access road. It was stated that the access road would be a private road. Raymond Maloney was concerned about how far the notices had gone. Co-location is to hold at least PCS was discussed. After some discussion, a motion was made by Brian McAlister, seconded by Sheldon Lukes, to approve Conditional Use Permit #526 for a guyed structure (communication tower) because it was in accordance with Section 14-31 of the Mower County Code and recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners with the following conditions:

1. Be a permanent permit.
2. At least an 8 foot chain link fence be erected and maintained around the tower and any equipment building.
3. Petitioner secure appropriate FCC and FAA permits and licenses.
4. Failure to comply with any and all the listed conditions shall result in revocation of this conditional use permit.

A motion was made by Don Olson, seconded by Keith Voorhees, to amend the motion to include the option that the transmission tower could be available for

other communication companies after negotiations with US Sitelease have been completed.

A vote on the amendment was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A vote on the total motion was taken and passed unanimously.

Conditional Use Permit #527 - Ronald Skjeveland- CUP applicable to Section 14-97, 14-120(b)&c of the Mower County Zoning Ordinance for grading and filling in the shoreland area and accessory structure in the floodplain in Section 15 of Austin Township. Reference was made to the site investigation performed by Don Olson and Harold Boverhuis on April 23, 1997. Staff report was presented. Mr. Ronald Skjeveland discussed his proposal and distributed a drawing showing the previous structures. He stated that if this is approved he will tear down the other two structures and only have the one. A letter from the DNR was presented that had concerns that were raised. After some discussion, a motion was made by Don Olson, seconded by Sheldon Lukes, to approve CUP #527 for grading and filling in the shoreland area and accessory structure in the floodplain because it was in accordance with Section 14-31 of the Mower County Code and recommend approval with the following conditions:

1. Comply with all State and local laws regarding placement of fill in shoreland and flood fringe district. Comply with DNR letter dated April 28, 1997.
2. Failure to comply with any and all the listed conditions shall result in revocation of this conditional use permit.

The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. on a motion by Meri Jo Lonergan, seconded by Keith Voorhees. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Daryl W. Franklin
Planning Director