

**Lanesboro Planning and Zoning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.  
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room and Zoom**

**Present Members:**

    Jason Resseman                        X   Michael Seiler                        X   Jeff Lepper  
  X   Randy Rakosnik                        X   Tom Schramm

**Staff:**

  X   Mitchell Walbridge                        X   Darla Taylor

**Guests:** Bonita Underbakke, Zach Lind, Martin Moore

**Regular Meeting**

Member Seiler called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- A. Public Comments:** City Administrator Mitchell Walbridge read a letter submitted by Alison Leathers, Cottage House Inn Manager, regarding ordinance regulations on short-term rental properties in the City of Lanesboro.
- B. Agenda:** City Administrator Walbridge requested the Gage – 2024 Chicken Permit Application be removed from the Consent Agenda, and the Lanesboro Arts Annual Sidewalk Permit Application be added to the Consent Agenda. Member Lepper entered a motion to approve the agenda with the removal and addition requests; Member Rakosnik seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- C. Consent Agenda:**
- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 21, 2024
  - b. Commonweal Theatre Company – Annual Sidewalk Permit Application
  - c. Lanesboro Arts Annual Sidewalk Permit Application
- Member Rakosnik entered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; Member Schramm seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- D. Continued Business:**
- a. **Ordinance 130.02 Review – Discharging Firearms:** Members reviewed several examples of firearm ordinances from other communities to determine what ordinance language would be relevant to the City of Lanesboro and could be incorporated into Ordinance 130.02 of the city code. Members expressed the City of Byron’s ordinance was well-written, however discharge of firearms for hunting should be considered allowable in the areas of the city zoned Rural Agricultural. Members requested the city administrator draft a revised ordinance using the City of Byron’s ordinance as a model. Members requested language that high-powered rifle usage not be permitted as part of the hunting regulations. A draft will be shared with members at the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting for further review.
  - b. **Development Planning Checklists:** Based on a referral from the Lanesboro Economic Development Authority Board, the City of Plainview’s development planning checklists were shared with members. The checklist documentation would standardize the requirements and process for developments within the City. Member Seiler entered a motion to refer the checklists to the city attorney to review for adequacy; Member Rakosnik seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
  - c. **Zach Lind Business Proposal:** Zach Lind shared that he would operate Driftless Trading Post under a Seasonal Food Stand permit issued by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. This

Approved 04/17/2024

type of permit provides more flexibility on the types of food and products a vendor can provide. Members stated they would like Lind's food stand to be connected to municipal water, electric, and sewer utilities as applicable. Members recommended that Lind not place porta-potties on the lot. Concern of having the propane tank on the lot was discussed. Lind stated that his appliances utilize propane as their fuel source and converting to natural gas is not an economical option. Member Rakosnik entered a motion to approve Lind's business proposal contingent upon a permanent food stand permit being issued through the state. The motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Lind stated that if not approved at the current meeting, he likely would not operate in the City for the 2024 season as it takes the Department of Agriculture 60 days to issue a permit.

Member Seiler entered a motion to table the item to the next meeting; Member Lepper seconded the motion. Members requested the city administrator forward the seasonal food stand permit information to each commission member. Motion carried with all in favor.

#### **E. New Business:**

- a. Downtown Commercial District Land Use:** Per a referral from the Lanesboro City Council, members began discussion about revision to city ordinances to regulate short-term lodging rentals. Members noted the importance of making sure ordinance revisions address the permissibility of short-term lodging rentals, namely VRBO and Airbnb, in the C-1 Downtown Commercial District main floor spaces as well as in R-1 Single Family Residential zones. Members stressed the importance of making sure that downtown main floor commercial space is utilized for retail uses. Member Lepper noted that the definition of 'Apartment' needs to be made clearer. Members also discussed the potential of having a cap on types of lodging licenses. Member Lepper entered a motion to table the business item with regulatory suggestions be brought back at the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting; Member Seiler seconded the motion. Members discussed whether an interim moratorium is appropriate until ordinances are revised. Member Lepper entered a motion to amend his original motion to include recommending the city council consider an interim moratorium on lodging licenses in the downtown commercial district until ordinances are revised; Member Seiler seconded the motion. Motion to amend the original motion carried with all in favor. Members voted all in favor of adopting the amended motion.

Member Seiler adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mitchell Walbridge*

Mitchell Walbridge  
City Administrator/Clerk