

## **MENOMINEE COUNTY/ TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** August 22, 2016  
**TIME:** 5:00pm  
**PLACE:** Menominee County Courthouse  
W3269 Courthouse Lane  
Keshena, WI 54135

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call.**

Elizabeth Moses called the meeting to order at 5:04pm. The following individuals were in attendance: Elizabeth Moses, Terrance Brooks, Keith Tourtillott, and Joel Doxtator. Others present: Laure Pecore, Jeremy Weso and Ruth Winter. Annette Westphal was absent excused, and Anthony Waupochick and Wayne Wilber were absent unexcused.

**2. Community input.**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes.**

Motion by Keith Tourtillott. Seconded by Terrence Brooks. All in favor. Motion carried.

**4. Comprehensive Plan Department Reports for:**

- **GIS/Land Information Office**

Ruth Winter, GIS/Land Information Officer, presented her report to the Planning Commission. Terrance Brooks asked Ruth if the GIS data is available online. Ruth explained that the GIS data is not currently available online, but there is a link to the statewide parcel mapping initiative. It is our goal to have this online in the near future. Motion by Keith Tourtillott. Seconded by Terrance Brooks. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **UW-Extension**

Jennifer Gauthier, UW-Extension, presented her report to the Planning Commission. Terrance Brooks asked Jennifer how these opportunities the UW-Extensions programs offer are promoted. Jennifer explained they are posted throughout the community, put onto kiosks, by doing outreach at community events, on Facebook and their website. Terrence suggested that she should write something in the Legend Lake Smoke Signals newsletter. Motion by Terrance Brooks. Seconded by Joel Doxtator. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Veteran's Service Office**

Jeremy Weso explained to the Plan Commission that there is not report that there currently is no Veteran's Service Officer. Bruce Wilber was hired by the County Board to be the new CVSO, and he will start this position on August 29, 2016. He then asked that the Commission table this report to the November meeting. Motion by Terrance Brooks. Seconded by Keith Tourtillott. All in favor. Motion carried.

**5. Recommendations for Foreclosed properties**

Ruth Winter explained that she met with Jeremy Weso, Jeremy Johnson, and Eric Fowle from East Central Regional Planning Commission regarding any possible economic development recommendations for the foreclosed properties that were discussed at the May 2016 Planning Commission meeting. We focused on two properties, those being the former Long property located on CTH M in the South Branch area which is approximately 25 acres, and the former Corn property located in Keshena on the corner of Dodge Road and STH 47 which is approximately 1.5

acres. Eric Fowle explained to the Plan Commission that over the course of the next couple of months he will do research and have something a little more specific in terms of business or industry and the needs of the community for these properties. Eric said they have a tool at their office called EMSI, which is Economic Modeling Software Incorporated and this can give a variety of analysis with it. One is a leakage analysis, taking a community and generating an analysis of what types of things people are going outside of the community for. Also, they would take a look at the neighboring communities such as Shawano and Suring to see if they can generate any ideas. They would take a look at some of the growing industry clusters that may exist within the region that might be able to connect to some of the assets within this community. Another option would be to set up some type of survey to the community to see what they would like to see there. He also identified the need for housing, which they will look into as well; and said that there's areas in our Comprehensive Plan that talk about opportunities for home based businesses. Eric told the Plan Commission that he will have something more concrete for the next meeting in November. Jeremy Weso added that there were some complications that these two properties are subject to 10 day waivers. The property on Dodge Road has access to sewer and water, and the property on CTH M does not and it also does not have access to broadband. If we try to market this to investors and we accept their offer, the Tribe still has the right of first of refusal. Maybe we need to develop infrastructure out there, and to work with Oconto Electric or Alliant Energy. Jeremy said that it's a good problem to have, we have never had this type of problem before and we might not ever get another opportunity like this again. We need to take a careful look at what we plan on doing. Jeremy Johnson added that any potential zoning committee action should be put on hold to see what direction we are going in before we make any zoning changes to either property. He also updated the committee regarding the developer that was supposed to meet with us, he said that the developer was showing no longer showing any interest in meeting.

**6. Set next meeting date and Agenda items.**

Next meeting date is set for Monday November 21, 2016.

Items to be on the next meeting agenda include reports from: Veteran's Service Office which is tabled to November; Jeremy Johnson – Conservation/Forestry/Zoning; Barb Nelson – HSD; and Tim Gatz – Maintenance. The recommendations from Eric Fowle from East Central Regional Planning Commission on the foreclosed properties will also be back on the agenda.

**7. Adjourn.**

Motion to Adjourn at 5:47 pm by Keith Tourtillott. Seconded by Terrance Brooks. All in favor. Motion carried.