

Village of Wapella Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

Wednesday, October 4th, 2023

Village Hall – 7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Zoning Chairperson, Ed Fleck.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Ed Fleck

Andrew Johnson

Sara Goergen

Vicky Holland

Mark Miller

Absent:

Lisa Merida

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Andrew Johnson to approve the minutes from August 9th, 2023, Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting. The second was made by Vicky Holland. All voting yes.

Motion made by Andrew Johnson to approve the minutes from the August 23rd, 2023, Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting. The second was made by Sara Goergen. All voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review Butchering Wording Addition to Ordinance

Mark Miller shared a copy of the working with the Board.

2. Discussion and possible Vote to Recommend Proposed Poultry Ordinance to Village Board

The Board had open discussion about the Proposed Poultry Ordinance. There was discussion about the two homes that have no backyard and that there should be an exception added to the ordinance for that. Mark passed out a copy of the necessary permit for residents that have more than 12 birds.

Sara Goergen made a motion to recommend Proposed Poultry Ordinance to the Village Board. Second made by Vicky Holland. All voting yes.

RECESS:

Motion to Recess made by Sara Goergen. Second made by Andrew Johnson. All voting yes.

Meeting Recessed @ 7:24pm

Motion made by Vicky Holland to return from Recess @ 8:00pm. Second made by Andrew Johnson. All voting yes.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing opened @ 8:00pm

Meeting called to order by Zoning Chairperson, Ed Fleck.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Ed Fleck
Andrew Johnson
Sara Goergen
Vicky Holland
Mark Miller

Absent:

Lisa Merida

Ed Fleck explained to the public that it is important to introduce themselves and speak clearly as the meeting was being recorded and each person has three minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1) **Dustin Perhay, 306 Maple**

Had some questions and voiced his opinions about several sections of the ordinance. He did not agree with various sections. He explained that the reason he moved to this village was because he was allowed to have chickens/birds. He became somewhat upset and said he would now be selling his house and moving out of the community. Strongly disagree with the limited number of birds allowed and the amount of the fees. His main concern was how long he would have until he would be forced to have to move his flock out of town. He provides food for his entire family, and it saves him thousands of dollars per year. He is just requesting ample amount of time before having to relocate his flock.

2) **Emma Boyce, 306 Cherry**

Voiced her opinions about several sections of the ordinance. She did not agree to limiting the number of birds allowed as the cycle time for meat birds and egg birds are different and is usually about every 12-14 weeks. She was also concerned about the amount of the fees. She also expressed that her chickens put food on the table for her family and saves her money through the year. She was not aware of a previous ordinance since it was not posted online. Expressed that the way the wording in the ordinance is really over-reaching.

3) **Tina Perhay, 306 Maple**

Wife of Dustin. She also voiced her opinion and was concerned about the amount of the fees that were stated in the ordinance and felt that was way too high. Commented about the \$25 permit fee. Confusion about the reinspection fee versus a reinstatement fee.

4) **John Goergen, 314 Cherry**

John asked for clarification about the \$25 permit fee.

Ed Fleck explained to everyone that the Zoning Board of Appeals is in place just to review and make recommendations to the Village Board about the ordinance by taking into consideration public comments. In the end it is up to the Village Board to approve/reject/change anything with the Poultry Ordinance.

Mark Miller read a section from the previous ordinance that stated livestock on any property within the village was not allowed. The residents who made public comments were not aware of that ordinance. Chicken has never been allowed since 1986.

As for inspections, Mark reiterated that inspections would only be done if there were complaints by other residents to determine if there was a violation.

Motion to adjourn made by Andrew Johnson. Second by Vicky Holland. All approved.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Robin Morrow, Village Clerk