

Town of Plum Lake planning committee meeting. September 18th, 2023.

Meeting called to order at 1:03 PM. By chairperson Chuck Rasmussen. Present. Sheehan Donoghue, Don Novak, Deb Seeger, Chuck Rasmussen, Ida Nemec, Shane Zaruba.

Meeting was duly posted at the town hall in Sayner, the U.S. Post Office in Sayner, WERL/WRJO Radio, Vilas County News Review, and on the Town of Plum Lake website.

Chuck introduced Jim Rosenberg, guest speaker, from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) formally the Department of Commerce.

Jim explained programs available from the WEDC for community improvements. The Main Street Programs and the Connect Community help to revitalize communities and make them more attractive. Locally Eagle River and Boulder Junction have participated in the Main Street program. There is a \$200 annual fee that provides training, workshops and networking opportunities.

Another resource offered by the WEDC is the Community Development Investment grant for mostly low income and tax incentive that offers matching funds grants up to \$250,000 to conserve and refurbish old buildings. The project can be new construction, but the grant encourages rebuilding of old buildings. Applications are accepted twice annually in the spring and in the fall. The WEDC website shows successful past projects. The Community Development Investment non-profit public and private programs provide affordable housing for fulltime residents.

WHEDA Wisconsin Housing Economic Development Authority addresses housing challenges. SAG (site assessment grant) is available for investigating contamination on eligible sites for the purposes of reducing or eliminating soil contamination, the demolition of any structure located on an eligible site, asbestos abatement containers and the removal of underground hazardous storage tank systems. Idle Sites funds may be used for building rehabilitation or demolition, environmental remediation and infrastructure improvements. It should be at least four acres that has been out of use for at least two years.

Minutes from the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. Deb made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Don. Approved.

Comprehensive Plan: All corrections have been approved and NCWRPC is waiting for signed and dated documents from the town.

Alexander Property: Possible presenters at our next meeting are Swiderski Building and Glenn Schiffman, Custom Components, to offer suggestions for housing developments on the Alexander property.

Chuck reported that the Town Board increased the room tax at the last board meeting. 70 % goes to the Chamber for tourism promotion and 30% goes to the town for tourism development. Possible uses could be public restrooms or community center upgrades. Shane

reiterated that we need to promote housing as tourism promotion leads to the need for workers in the businesses and workers need housing.

TAP grant: There was discussion about the WISDOT approved TAP grant. 16 RFPs (Request for proposal) were sent out. Three responded. Don Novak, Chuck Rasmussen and Jackey Postuchow have scored the selections and will meet to prioritize them and send them to the state for final selection.

2024 Budget Proposal: The following items were listed for consideration in the 2024 budget request.

Restrooms \$130,000 - \$150,000.

Alexander Property (carryover)      \$2000

TAP      Bike Path

NCWRPC

State and town      Land use agreements – power to ski site and Star Lake Mill Site

Crosswalk

Recreation Building

Budget hearings for the town will be held every Thursday in October from 3 to 5 PM.

Deb made a motion to adjourn. Second by Shane. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25.