

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF OMRO PLANNING COMMISSION

Omro Town Hall, 4205 Rivermoor Road, Omro, WI

December 8, 2022

6:30 P.M.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Town of Omro Web Page and the posting board at the Omro Town Hall. It was mailed to the Omro Herald and the Oshkosh Northwestern.

Present: Commissioners Bruce Roskom, Brian Noe, Joy Schwarz, Larry Remer, Phil Ertmer, and Allen Silverthorn.

Absent: Barbara Meyers

Chairman Bruce Roskom called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

## **Approve Minutes:**

MOTION: Phil Ertmer moved to approve the minutes of October 13, 2022. Allen Silverthorn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **Announcements and Reports:**

No announcements or reports.

## **Public Comment Items**

None

## **Non-Public Comment Items**

None

## **Discussion/Informational Items**

### 1. Hwy 21 Corridor Study

Chairman Roskom summarized the results of the Hwy 21 Corridor Development Survey and provided a copy to each Planning Commission member. During this meeting, each item was reviewed and some recommendations or actions were discussed. The Survey attempted to assess and codify the expectations of the Town residents in order to aid in the planning of future development.

There were eighteen questions in the Survey. The first three questions identified the percentage of residents in the corridor, their ages, and the approximate acreage that they owned. Question #4 asked the residents whether they saw the Town as an agricultural community or a "Bedroom Community for Greater Oshkosh". Survey Questions 5 and 6 asked the residents' opinion on existing access to goods and services and if they were satisfied with the current development within the Hwy 21 corridor.

Question 7 asked about the role that the Town should take in promoting development. Because the response to this question was divided, marketing may play a role in determining the types of development which would suit the majority of residents. Question #8 further identified the desire of residents to minimize industrial development, but to continue residential development, agricultural uses,

and recreational uses.

Vice-Chairman Brian Noe summarized the meeting with the DOT, saying that our representatives discussed the Hwy 21 corridor and the improvements that are planned. Roundabouts are being planned at the intersections of Sand Pit and Reighmoor roads, but sidewalks and bike trail details have not. He said that our planning will help guide their (the DOT's) planning. He also mentioned that a speed reduction is not planned for Hwy 21 at this time. The commissioners expressed concern about the division of our Town by Hwy 21 and how best to keep the north and south sections of our Town connected.

Survey question #9 asked residents what they would like to see for future residential uses within the Hwy 21 corridor. Chairman Roskom explained that, typically, businesses are built near highways, multi-family units or duplexes adjacent to these, and then single-family homes. The majority of respondents favored single-family units, but many were willing to allow the other types of uses. Question #10 asked residents which type of businesses they would like to see, with the majority voting to see smaller local or community-type commercial developments. Chairman Roskom explained that this question needs further clarification as the response seems to be inconsistent with other survey results.

The next three questions dealt with visual impacts and aesthetics in relation to new building along Hwy 21. There was a majority consensus that some standards for landscaping, screening, and buffering would be beneficial for future developments. The recommendations were that ordinances could be written to codify these requirements.

The next four questions asked residents about the "look" of the Town that they would like to see, the Town's roll in funding development, the current land use, and accessibility of goods and services.

For a detailed discussion of these survey questions and the recommendations of the Planning Commission, residents may request the audio of the meeting from the Town clerk.

**Adjournment:**

MOTION: Larry Remer moved to adjourn. Phil Ertmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

This meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Minutes by

Cheryl Gardner/Recording Secretary