

*****TOWN OF CABLE PLAN COMMISSION*****
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 2, 2022

1. **Call to Order** - The regular meeting of the Town of Cable Plan Commission was called to order by Chairman Tony Erba at 5:32 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2022 in the main assembly room of the Cable Community Center. Present: Chairman Tony Erba, Commissioners Kristine Lendved, Tony Merrill, David Popelka, Sue Thurn and Shelly Wilson.

2. **Chairman Remarks** - Chairman Erba noted that there were 3 additional documents distributed to members with their meeting packets. He will address the new information as the topics come up later in the agenda.

3. **Town Board Update** - Commissioners Merrill and Popelka cited the following Plan Commission-related items of business from the July Town Board meeting:
 - The Board approved the NWRPC/Bayfield County proposal which would financially assist the Plan Commission's work to update the Town of Cable Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
 - The Thomsen permit was approved, however Commissioner Merrill noted that there may be future issues to consider related to the driveway ordinance as it applies to this property.
 - The Board approved a 20% discount on cemetery fees, however the term "resident" will require further clarification.
 - Estimates received for the Park playground equipment came in at \$50,000. This is an increase of \$20,000 from an earlier estimate received. The increase in costs cannot be absorbed by the Town budget therefore donations will be needed in order to move forward with the project. They are looking at a spring 2023 installation.
 - The Veit Company provided an estimate of \$350,000 for demolition of the Old School. If the Town is able to find a local disposal site the savings would be \$100,000. The Town approved the cost for the environmental assessment.

4. **Approval of Agenda** - There being no changes, Commissioner Lendved made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Merrill and carried.

5. **Approval of Minutes** - Following review and there being no corrections, a motion was made by Commissioner Popelka to approve the minutes from the July 5, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thurn and carried.

6. Public Input - Non-Agenda Items - There was no public input however Commissioner Wilson notified the members of one non-agenda item for informational purposes only. The National Bike Association will be requesting a special event application for an event to take place on Labor Day weekend. The high school mountain bike race will take place completely on Birkie property but there could be upwards of 3,000 people in town that weekend. Traffic will not use McNaught and Randysek roads at all but will enter and exit on Telemark Road. They have their own medical team.

7. Cable Tomorrow/Comprehensive Plan Updates and Projects

- **Connect Communities Update** - Commissioner Thurn provided the following update from the recent committee meeting:
 - Artwork has been selected for the downtown garbage cans and it will include plaques to identify the artist and that the art has been provided by Connect Communities project in cooperation with the Cable National History Museum.
 - Commissioners Lendved and Thurn are working together on the historic building plaque project. They will be bringing this item back to the Plan Commission and the Town Board in the future in order to request funding.
 - The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for September 13, 2022 and will include 2023 planning.

Commissioner Popelka suggested that the committee return to their previous title of “Cable Tomorrow”, suggesting that there may be some confusion as to what Connect Communities stands for. Following discussion, Chairman Erba asked Commissioner Thurn to put this topic on the agenda for their next meeting.

- **Comprehensive Plan Revisions Update** - Chairman Erba provided two documents for review which are related to the Comp Plan revision process.
 - The first paper provided notes from a discussion the Chairman had with Jason Laumann of the NWRPC. It included an outline of the planning process which would eventually lead to the revised Comprehensive Plan and the steps needed for adoption of the revised plan. The Chairman noted some examples of revisions may include moving some items, especially the statistical data, to an Appendix. Also other changes are needed in order to bring clarity to the plan with an effort to avoid the tendency for flexibility.
 - The second document is a draft of a “Public Participation Plan” which describes proposed efforts to engage the general public in the planning process. Following review, Chairman Erba asked the members to provide their input to him by Friday, August 5, 2022.
 - The Chairman plans to present both documents to the Town Board at their next meeting.
 - During the discussion period on the above, Commissioner Thurn proposed to the members that a public listening session be held prior to

the process in order to assess what has changed since five years ago when the last listening sessions were held. She suggested that September may be a good starting point for that. Chairman Erba suggested rather to put some work in ahead of the first session in order to get some substance to compare with five years ago and noted that October would be a good month for the first session. Residents should be notified in the first part of September so they have time to plan to attend.

- Commissioner Popelka suggested that the title of the Participation Plan be revised to read “Public Participation Plan *for the Comprehensive Plan*” in order to clarify that the planning is specifically related to the Comp Plan process.

8. Housing - Chairman Erba provided a document compiled by Heather Ludzack which was a summary of citizen input from the recent housing public forum. The document has been received into the record of this meeting. A diverse group of 21 people attended the forum, along with 4 moderators and 2 facilitators. Commissioner Lendved noted that unfortunately many of the attendees thought they were going to hear a presentation. This was most likely due to the fact that the format of the session was not included in the notice of the meeting. Commissioner Popelka requested that the summary be forwarded to the Town Board prior to the next meeting. He also noted that the Chequamegon Bay Housing Coalition, in conjunction with WHEDA, will be scheduling a virtual meeting in the near future to put forth a proposed action plan.

9. Recreation

- **Special Event Application** - Suggestions for edits to the existing Cable Special Event Application, which were received from Commissioner Popelka and summarized by Chairman Erba, were reviewed and discussed by the members. The suggestions focused on two areas of possible edits: Reciprocity and Exemptions.
 - **Reciprocity** - This proposal was for a “reciprocity agreement” between Cable and surrounding towns to collaborate on permits and application fees when special events take place within multiple towns. It is noted that actual town policies do not need to be the same in all the towns but rather the potential of sharing one application form which would request the information needed by all towns. This would help organizers in that they would only have to fill out one form. It was suggested that Shelly Wilson, in her role as Event Coordinator, could work out the logistics of this idea. Chairman Erba would like to present the proposal to the Town Board first before the Plan Commission makes any changes.
 - **Exemptions** - These suggestions are for adding language to the existing application form regarding exemptions from the special event rules. The three exemptions include:
 - Events where less than 25 people will be in attendance.

- Events hosted by a business as a normal function of their operations that contained entirely on the business premises.
- Gatherings held at the event organizer's private residence providing no fees, commerce or other compensation (including fundraising activities or donations) are involved.

The first two exemptions were considered to be included in the Cable application form but were not part of the motion to approve, therefore a motion at the Town Board level is needed to clarify the changes proposed under the exemption section. There was discussion as to whether the third suggested exemption is necessary to include. Chairman Erba suggested that it not be included at this time but that it could be reviewed at a later date if needed.

10. Members Comments

- Commissioner Merrill asked for clarification of the Bayfield County rule which restricts the Town of Russell from having a land overlay district and asked if this rule only applies to the Town of Russell. Commissioner Popelka affirmed that yes, it only applies to Town of Russell.
- Commissioner Popelka notified the members that Bayfield County is proposing a new rule that there be no density requirements for housing authority developments (only). The current density requirements for private housing has affected economic development in Cable. This issue is on the agenda for the Bayfield County zoning meeting this month. Additionally another item which will be forthcoming is proposed new rules dealing with accessory dwelling units, e.g. apartments over garages and duplexes considered two separate living units, etc.
- Commissioner Thurn advised that Connect Communities has received the estimates on the Welcome to Cable signs and if anyone has questions they should contact her.
- Chairman Erba has scheduled surgery on August 24 and therefore will not be available for the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 6. By consensus it was agreed to reschedule the next meeting of the Plan Commission to Monday September 12, 2022.

11. Next Meeting - *Note Change: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town of Cable Plan Commission is Monday, September 12, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center.**

12. Adjournment - Chairman Erba adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

_____/s/_____

Approved: September 15, 2022