

TOWN OF GENESEE PLAN COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

Chairman Leair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present were: Town Chairman Leair and Supervisor James Morris. Also present were Plan Commission Members Bob Christiansen, Joe Turzynski, Brett Engelking and Mike Toole. Absent was Jeff Lightfoot. Also present were Planner Jeff Herrmann and Deputy Clerk Cindy Zignego.

Leair read the public hearing notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be conducted by the Town of Genesee Plan Commission on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Genesee Town Hall, S43 W31391 Hwy 83, Genesee Depot, Wisconsin, to consider the Conditional Use Amendment request of **James Horneck, S23 W33769 Morris Road, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin** for the construction of a pond per Section 30 (E)(3) of the Town of Genesee Zoning Code. The property is described as Lot 1 CSM 3519, being a part of the NW1/4 of Section 7, T6N R18E, in the Town of Genesee, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.

Jim Horneck and Mark Ellena approached the table. Herrmann explained that because the pond is over 20,000 square feet, a Conditional Use permit is required. The pond will be used for training of dogs and recreation. Horneck has a Conditional Use permit to operate a taxidermy business on the property. It is a separate Conditional Use permit.

Horneck explained why he wants to build the pond. His dog placed number one in the country, out of 10,000 dogs. Horneck gave history of land stating it used to be an elk farm and leased out to graze cattle. There is an eight foot fence around most of the property and he plans on fencing the rest of it. Now the land is just sitting with two ponds on it. The ponds need to be cleaned up. Horneck wants to build a new pond that is shaped for dog training purposes. Ellena said approval is needed from Waukesha County for a permit. Waukesha County will oversee the project. They will physically be onsite to ensure the guidelines are met. A letter of credit is required by Waukesha County. The pond has to be in compliance with the plan. It has safety shelves, depth for water quality, and will be removing two ponds that are green and full of silt. When the pond is excavated, berms will be created on the east side that provide a natural barrier inside the fence line. The drainage will stay the same. There is a small wetland area in the west that County has required they stay at least 100 feet away from it. The pond should contain any fluctuations in rain fall. Herrmann inquired about the vegetation around the pond. Horneck responded it will be grass that does well in area. Ellena stated there is a 10 feet wide safety shelf and has one foot in depth and will be planted. Horneck wants vegetation that will be a wetland type plant that sustains submerged water. Herrmann stated Mark Michelson reviewed the plan. His only comment was that perhaps an overflow swale be added to the new south pond. Requested location of the culvert on Morris Road be added. Christiansen said Marlin Johnson would be a good contact for types of native grasses. Morris stated the previous owner's house had burned down. The next owner dug a hole which is about in the center of proposed pond. That owner buried the foundation for the house, foundation for the barn and silo in the hole. That will have to be removed when building the pond.

Leair opened up the floor for comments at 6:15 p.m. Donna Riggle, S23W33547 Morris Road, is neighbor next to Horneck. Her concerns were: how pond will affect the ground water and her well water; is pond going to be aerated or stagnant water; will pond be used for hunting water fowl or just used for training the dogs. Ellena responded the pond will be in upper aquifer not in a well aquifer. It is above limestone level and will not affect well water levels. Regarding stagnant water, depth is being added to the pond which will create natural change over. They will be addressing this in the future. Horneck said there will be no aeration in the pond because it is dangerous for the dogs to hit a pump when they are swimming. The ponds will be kept clean. The water quality will be high for the safety of the dogs. Horneck does not want geese in the pond. The only person hunting would

be Horneck to control the geese. The purpose of the pond is for dog training, not public hunting. Christiansen asked if Horneck will be having trials there and Horneck replied no, just training.

Lair said there will be no action taken tonight, just the hearing. It will be on the September 28, 2020 Agenda for discussion and action. Herrmann will send his report next week.

Lair asked for any more comments from the floor. Riggle asked if there is substantial rain, will it saturate the ground and cause flooding unto her property. Ellena said it has to be addressed at the County level. Engelking asked if both properties slope to the north. Riggle said they get standing water to the east after heavy rain. Horneck said drainage flows to the north. Ellena said he discussed with Mark Mickelson not to let water run off the property. Horneck said the drawing of the plan given to Herrmann is not exact and has changed.

No further comments. Lair closed the hearing at 6:26 p.m.

Christiansen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Engelking. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Cindy Zignego
Deputy Clerk
September 18, 2020