

The September Special Meeting minutes were approved on November 13, 2019.

MARCELL TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING- SIGN VARIANCE, CUP, LITTLE TURTLE LAKE ACCESS
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019, 1:00 PM
MARCELL TOWN HALL

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Diane Coppens.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present – Chair-Diane Coppens, Supervisor-Sandy Lyytinen, Supervisor- Karen Senger, and Clerk-Tracy Chase
Others in Attendance-Andrew Shaw, Don Palmer, Estelle Palmer, Tom Miller, Tim Johnson, Terry Price, Mavis Johnson, Clif Block, Kevin Kurth, Jeff Kilian, and Carolyn Davis

The Sign Variance for Montana Realty, Inc, James Hamilton agent, was the first point of discussion. Diane gave a brief overview of the variance issue- the sign being too large to meet the Minnesota Trunk Highway 38 (Edge of the Wilderness National Scenic Byway) Sign Ordinance. Although Colleen Sauber, Marcell Township resident, couldn't be at the meeting, she sent a letter to be read on her behalf opposing the variance. This was done and entered into the record. Several people in attendance weighed in on this issue and after discussion, Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Karen Senger to not approve the variance as it went against the sign ordinance. MCU- 3-0. The board completed the variance paperwork.

The Little Turtle Lake Access was next on the agenda. Again, Diane gave a brief overview of the issue. The Township owns the access, but the dock has been placed there by the DNR. The DNR would like for the Township to sign a 20-year contract stating the Township would be responsible for maintaining the access for 12 months per year. The DNR would only be on a one-year contract. The Township attorney did not feel this was a contract the Township should enter. Several questions were asked from the residents in attendance. One concern would be that signs would be removed- access, invasive species, etc. If the DNR chooses to pull their signs, the Township would make sure to replace them. Motion by Karen Senger and seconded by Sandy Lyytinen to not sign the contract from the DNR. MCU- 3-0. Diane will contact Guy Lund's office and let them know of the Township's decision.

The last item on the agenda was for the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for North Star Lake Resort. The amended CUP was for 11 RV sites. Andrew Shaw- Shaw & Shaw, gave a brief overview on zoning classifications. The Conditional Use Permit does allow for use but inserts conditions on the use. Several of the resort's neighbors have concerns regarding the CUP. A letter was drafted by concerned residents with 4 key points - North Star Lake Trail driveway be maintained as a private drive without commercial use, a 138-foot setback, quiet hours between 10:00 pm and 8:00 am, and the shower/bath location. After much discussion, reading of the petition, etc., Motion by Sandy Lyytinen and seconded by Karen Senger to accept the September 4th letter to the Marcell Township Board and Itasca County Planning Commission with the given suggestions with the exception of a 100 foot buffer versus the 138 foot buffer as the position of the Township. MCU- 3-0. The board completed the CUP paperwork with this information.

Motion to adjourn at 2:33 PM was made by Diane Coppens and Karen Senger seconded the motion. MCU- 3-0.

Chairperson

Date

Clerk

Date