

Minutes of the Plan Commission – May 14th 2015

A meeting of the City of Prairie du Chien Plan Commission was held on Thursday May 14th 2015 at 7:00 PM in City Hall. In the absence of Mayor Dave Hemmer, City Administrator Aaron Kramer called the meeting to order.

GENERAL ITEMS TO BE ACTED UPON:

- 1. Call to order/Roll Call** - PRESENT – Roger Grunow, Dan Key, Linda Munson, Ron Leys, Ross Ritchie ABSENT - Mayor Dave Hemmer (Chairman), Tom Nelson CITY STAFF ALSO PRESENT – Zoning Administrator Julie Jackson, City Administrator Aaron Kramer, Plan Commission Attorney Mark Peterson
- 2. Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda** – MOTION: Munson SECOND: Grunow VOTE: 5-0
- 3. APPROVAL – Minutes of the March 16th 2015 meeting** – MOTION: Ritchie SECOND: Munson VOTE: 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

4. PUBLIC HEARING – Application of Kent Stark, 801 S. Michigan Street, for a Conditional Use/Home Occupation Permit for purposes of manufacturing firearms in the detached garage (for distribution, not retail sales) in a R-1 Low Density Residential Zoning District – Kramer opened the public hearing at 7:02 PM. Jackson gave an synopsis of the application. Stark addressed the Commission, explaining he would be manufacturing guns, mainly semi-automatic weapons, for the dealers he works with, government agencies and law enforcement agencies. He stated there would be no retail component. Stark said the detached garage would be a secure facility, with barred windows and a security system. There would be no employees. Randall Cornford (811 South Wacouta) spoke in opposition to the application, stating he was concerned with the number of children in the neighborhood. Shelly Raisbeck (803 South Wacouta) spoke in opposition to the application, and asked Stark questions about the background check procedure and why he was leaving his current location on Marquette Road. Stark said he was in the process of selling that property, and background checks are required of all dealers, including him, through state and federal agencies. Cynda Opfer (811 South Wacouta) spoke in opposition to the application, stating she had concerns over the number of children in the neighborhood and the condition of the building that would be used to house the manufacturing operation. Staff reminded the Commission that, under the City's new Home Occupation Ordinance, the application, if approved, would come back in one (1) year for a review by the Commission. Kramer closed the public hearing at 7:27 PM.

5. ACTION on aforesaid agenda item - No further approval required by Council. Leys said he would oppose the application because he was worried about theft and was personally opposed to more of the type of weapons Stark manufactured being used by non-law enforcement and non-military individuals. ACTION: To approve the application of Kent Stark, 801 S. Michigan Street, for a Conditional Use/Home Occupation Permit for purposes of manufacturing firearms in the detached garage (for distribution, not retail sales) in a R-1 Low Density Residential Zoning District, contingent on the approval of the operation by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and that no retail operations be permitted MOTION: Key SECOND: Grunow. Prior to the vote, Munson and Ritchie said they would oppose the motion due to the comments they had received from neighbors of the application. VOTE: 2-3 (Munson, Leys and Ritchie opposed). The motion failed and the application was rejected.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION - Request from Greg DeJulio to extend/enlarge an existing nonconforming structure at 1021 S. Beaumont Road, for purposes of an addition to his home - No further approval required by Council. ACTION: To approve the request MOTION: Munson SECOND: Key VOTE: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION - Review and recommendation on Certified Survey Map located in part of Lots 12-22, Block 78 of the Union Plat of the City of Prairie du Chien, located in Farm Lot 32 of the Private Land Claims at Prairie du Chien, City of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, –

brought by the City of Prairie du Chien - This item will be on the May 19th Council agenda for final approval. ACTION: To recommend the Council approve the CSM MOTION: Leys SECOND: Grunow VOTE: 5-0

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION - Review and recommendation on Certified Survey Map located in Lot 3 of CSM #699, all in Farm Lot 22 of the Private Land Claims at Prairie du Chien, City of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, – brought by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Quick - This item will be on the May 19th Council agenda for final approval. ACTION: To recommend the Council approve the CSM MOTION: Munson SECOND: Leys VOTE: 5-0

9. ADJOURNMENT (7:37 PM) – Prior to the vote, staff informed the Plan Commission there would be special meeting on Tuesday June 2nd at 5:45 PM. MOTION: Ritchie SECOND: Grunow VOTE: 5-0

Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer