

# MORRISON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

October 26, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

The Morrison County Planning Commission held a public hearing and regular monthly meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Regular Members Present: Dave Stish, Frances Brisk, Clint Kathrein and Earl Fuechtmann

Regular Members Absent: Brent Lindgren

Commissioners Present: Mike Wilson, Jeff Jelinski and Randy Winscher

Commissioners Absent: Mike LeMieur and Greg Blaine

Ex-Officio Members Present: Amy Kowalzek, Sharon Peterson and Shannon Wettstein

Chairman Dave Stish called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

### **1. Myron Czech – 11581 130<sup>th</sup> St; Little Falls, MN 56345 – Application for a Conditional Use Permit to expand to a Tier III feedlot; located in NW ¼ of NE ¼ & SW ¼ of NE ¼, Section 35, Township 129, Range 30, Pike Creek Township.**

Amy Kowalzek entered into record Section 604.6 of the Morrison County Land Use Control Ordinance, a plat map with parcel location, the Conditional Use Permit Request, Conditional Use Criteria Questions, site plan, five (5) aerial photos, staff report, structure layout, recommendations from the environmental review and suggested conditions. There were 21 notices sent to neighboring property owners. There was no comment received prior to the hearing. Amy entered the Conditional Use Criteria Questions.

Dave Stish asked for a history of the farm. Myron Czech stated there was a previous permit issued in 2006 that expired. We had another farm come up for sale and purchased it. We started working on that farm instead of this one. Now things are in line to start working to improve this farm. We have a growing farm/family business. Our business would be employing around 15 people and we do have homes on some of the sites for our employees to live. We would be adding onto the barn in a few years. We are always looking at new technology to improve the farming activities. There will be 3 phase power added to this site. Dave asked what kind of milking system is used. Myron stated there will be double 16, only at first it will be double 10. We will scrape the manure into the pit, we use sand bedding and recycle the sand. Dave asked how many new employees will be added. Myron stated around 6 to 8.

Clint Katherine stated that the packet had good information regarding the operation.

Earl Fuechtmann asked when the pit was constructed. Myron Czech stated this is a 4.2-million-gallon pit that was constructed in about 2008 or 2009. Amy Kowalzek stated that the conditions from the original conditional use permit were met.

#### Audience Comment:

Ron Hourscht – Pike Creek Township – stated the Township has no issues with this request. The Township does question the wear and tear on the road the farm will be using and the increase of traffic.

Shannon Wettstein – SWCD – stated she was on-site, and this is an excellent site for an expansion. The soils are good, there is no close water features and there were no pollution concerns. This site would not be sufficient enough for the maximum animal units as it is.

Dave Stish asked if the site would be permitted for the maximum number of animal units. Amy Kowalzek stated this application would grant them a Tier III feedlot so they could go up to the maximum animal units as a Tier III would allow. Dave asked what about the acreage for manure and manure storage. Amy stated those situations would follow the performance standards and need to work with our office to make sure all standards are met.

Myron Czech stated they are off 130<sup>th</sup> Ave which is a Township Road. The main traffic would be one milk truck per day. We haul feed over to the site now, we would look into adding a feed storage structure to this site later. Our farm has a standing agreement with the Township that if we do any damage to the road the Township will fix it and bill us for the work.

Ron Hourscht stated he feels the basis is covered. Amy Kowalzek asked if the board would like this as a condition.

The Planning Commission discussed language to add the road fixes as a condition.

Mike Wilson stated this would be the first time a condition like this has been discussed. Mike stated he is ok with the condition. Amy Kowalzek stated the Planning Commission is discussing this due to the Township being at the meeting and wanting to address the concern.

Myron Czech stated he would be ok with the condition.

The voting sheets were polled.

A motion was made by Earl Fuechtmann to recommend approval of this request with conditions. The motion was seconded by Clint Katherine. The vote was all in favor.

The application will go in front of the Morrison County Board of Commissioners on September 27, 2020.

The public hearing was closed at 8:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Clint Katherine to approve the August 24, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Dave Stish. The vote was all in favor.

Correspondence – None

Old Business – Amy Kowalzek stated that the County Board does want to move forward with combining the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission. We will be moving forward with an ordinance revision for this.

New Business – None

A motion was made by Clint Katherine to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Frances Brisk. The vote was all in favor.

With no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kowalzek, Secretary  
Morrison County Planning Commission