

June 26, 2017
Beck Road Matter

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Dave Mount.

Present: Barb Crow, Rolf Carlson, Corlis West, Dave Mount and Travis Stolp

Also present: Ann K. Cox Clerk, Town Attorney Scott Witty, Planning Director Sue Lawson and Planning Secretary Beth Mullan

Dave Mount brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Our main business tonight is an appeal of a variance decision by the planning commission. There are a couple of pieces of small business I would like to attend to before we start. You have received from the Town Attorney a proposed letter in response to the letters received from the property owner's attorney. The two letters are very close with the exception of the time line for response to the property owner was added. If there are comments on that or if there is a motion we can start from there what is the boards pleasure.

Barb suggested we start with a motion and go from there therefore I make a motion to approve the most recent draft of the letter, approve that letter and have it sent, Travis seconded.

Discussion on the Motion:

Corlis would like to say that the outcome of this situation is probably the most important thing to the Becks and Hagglands. The most important thing to the town board is to provide a fair and open process and to come to that conclusion everybody should get a chance to go through the process as it is stated in the ordinance. For this particular access, the access was granted without a variance. The variance process is an important process, it gives all the people involved a chance to say their piece, object to it and have the whole process play out. I think that the board's responsibility is to try to go by the ordinance as best they can. We can't go back to the beginning or start again so the changes I made to the letter is probably the next best thing to going back in by doing it correctly the first time. It may be an expensive process for the town and it may be an expensive process for all parties involved. The other parties involved did not make the mistake, it was the township that made the mistake, if anyone bears responsibility for this process in being circumvented, it's the township and I think we need to get back on the right track as quickly as possible. Having said that, I believe there are probably other ways to go that might not be as expensive as the legal process could be in this situation. The parties involved could possibly be convinced to apply for a Cartway. I don't know if that is a viable route to go for this but it possibly could be a lot less expensive for all parties involved and the township. And it is possibly something they could agree to.

Dave I don't disagree with anything you've said except the fact that you said it implies that we might not head in that direction. The only thing I wouldn't agree with is expense doesn't have any bearing on my opinion of the matter. I think the letter represents the town's best way to move forward, given what has transpired. Absolutely the variance process is what the ordinance calls for and that is what the letter calls for to happen.

Dave, with no more discussion on the motion it has been moved and seconded that the town board approve the letter drafted and provided by the Town Attorney, those in favor vote **Aye**; Barb, Dave, Travis and Rolf **No**; Corlis Motion carries.