

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
PLAN COMMISSION AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HENRY)
VILLAGE OF ORION)

The regular meeting of the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals of the said Village was held August 31, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Galliard, Weber, Saunders, Peterson, Thompson, and Coulter. Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Galliard. It was moved by Saunders, seconded by Weber to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 27, 2011 as amended by changing 14th Street to 14th Avenue on page two of the document. Ayes: Galliard, Weber, Saunders, Peterson, Thompson, and Coulter. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Chairman Galliard swore in Mr. Bill Lange and Mr. Tim Stout for the hearing. Mr. Lange's request was to annex a 1.10 acre parcel south and west of his existing property at 1400 16th Street, in addition to a request for vacating 250' of 16th Street. Mr. Lange had previously told the Plan Commission that he would be willing to donate the vacated street back to the village if it was needed for future development.

Chairman Galliard told Mr. Lange that village attorney John Ames had serious reservations about vacating 16th Street. Mr. Stout reiterated the fact that Orion Tool, Die & Machine Co. continues to have problems with attendees of baseball games and football practices parking on the company property and blocking access for delivery trucks. He said vacating the street would allow the company to secure its parking in a better manner. Mr. Galliard said he was reluctant to recommend vacating the street against advice of counsel. It was also noted that Attorney Ames said the technical definition of vacating a street means that the village can foresee no further use for the land, which in this case is untrue.

After much discussion, the Plan Commission suggested the village board enter an agreement with the company to allow it to utilize the street without vacating. Mr. Lange said the parking problem has been going on for many years and he faulted the village for not doing anything to create more parking for those attending ball games. Secretary Sampson said the village board had recently discussed creating more off-street parking west of 16th Street and in the picnic shelter area.

In regard to the parking issue, Jim Cooper, village president, said the board of trustees would be sensitive to the business investment being made by Mr. Lang, and he felt certain an arrangement could be made for Orion Tool, Die & Machine

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The minutes of August 31, 2011 continued:

Company's use of 16th Street. He said this would help the company have control over the parking issue.

Since the property to be annexed surrounds the south and west sides of the existing company property, which are the areas for the logical extensions of 14th Avenue and 16th Street, Plan Commission members said the annexed property should include the dedication of land allowing the streets to be extended. Mr. Lange and Mr. Stout expressed dismay about giving up property for the street extensions, but Chairman Galliard said the Plan Commission had to keep in mind the best interest of the village when making a decision.

It was moved by Galliard, seconded by Saunders to recommend approval of the pre-annexation agreement presented by Mr. Bill Lange of Orion Tool, Die & Machine Co., 1400 16th Street, with an amended plat to indicate the dedication of the extensions of 16th Street and 14th Avenue. Ayes: Galliard, Weber, Saunders, Peterson, Thompson, and Coulter. Noes: None. Absent: None.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Thompson, seconded by Peterson to adjourn. Ayes: Galliard, Saunders, Peterson, Thompson, and Coulter. Noes: None. Absent: Weber.

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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