PUBLIC HEARING
THEODORE STRZOK
CAMPGROUND

JANUARY 7, 2009

Chairman Willingham called the public hearing to order at 3:30 P.M. Members present were Willingham, Schneider, Mai and Costello. Taylor arrived at 3:12 P.M. The purpose of the hearing was a conditional use request to allow a campground on the following described real estate:

A parcel in Gov’t Lot 2, Section 34, T33N, R7W.

Property owner: Theodore Strzok
W10765 County Road D
Holcombe WI 54745

CeCe Tesky read the notice of public hearing, which was posted per the requirements of a class (2) notice. The property owner and town clerk were notified by Certified Mail and the neighboring property owners within 500’ were notified by First Class mail.

The committee viewed the application.

Willingham asked for anyone present to speak for the request. Owner Ted Strzok was present and stated that he would like to have 40-50 sites and wants to know what his options are.

Willingham asked for anyone present to speak against the request. Rick Wanke was present. He said he owns a lot east of the farm. He said he has a restrictive covenant on his land which prevents him from camping on his lot for extended periods. He has concerns that the owner of the land now owned by Ted is the one that placed the covenants on his land, so why isn’t that land restricted from camping, as well. The farm is open and not wooded. There will be lots of campers along the river. What impact will it have on the river? There is not a lot of river activity now and he’s not comfortable with the campground.

Willingham asked for anyone else present to speak for the request. Ron Moore was present. He said he just found out about the request. Rusk County is short on campgrounds. Lake people think they own the lake. Every campground now has a waiting list. The campground is a good idea for Rusk County.

Willingham asked for anyone else present against the request. Dale Brown owns property adjacent to the Strzok property. Commercial use is not preferred in this location. The ordinance requires that domestic uses shall be preferred. There are steep slopes. Rusk County already has 2 campgrounds within 1 mile of this location. Because of the depth of the river in this location, almost all the boat traffic is fishing boats. A campground would
be detrimental to the fisherman. Wildlife (loons) are environmentally sensitive. Extra boat traffic will upset the environment. (See submitted letter)

Willingham asked for anyone else present in favor of the request. Ron Moore spoke again. He has a house on Potato Lake. He stated that July 4th is usually a busy weekend; otherwise there are not many people fishing. Other campgrounds have waiting lists.

Willingham asked for anyone else present against the request. Dale Brown spoke again. Campground people stay for years. If it was conventional, where campers bring in their campers for the week or weekend only, it wouldn’t be bad. But some people will put down trailers and leave them there all year. That doesn’t fit in the area. Maybe with trees or some kind of separation it would be a better idea. It’s dangerous for jet skiing etc.

Willingham asked for anyone else present in favor of the request. Strzok spoke again. He said that he spoke to Flaters and Wards and they are in favor of the campground. Some people can’t afford lake lots and would enjoy being able to come to a campground.

Willingham asked for anyone else present against the request. No one spoke.

Willingham asked for anyone else present in favor of the request. Ron Moore spoke again. He stated that it’s not a poor fit. There has been a campground on Potato Lake and people have built next to the campground.

Willingham asked for anyone else present against the request. Dale Brown spoke again. He planned to build a house and live in the area permanently within the next 3 years. He said he wouldn’t be willing anymore. It’s not a good investment if the campground is there. Right now, he spends about 90 days a year in Rusk County.

Willingham asked for anyone else present in favor of the request. Strzok spoke again. He asked if the 2 mile rule was in effect. It is not. Waterfront is limited. Flaters and Wards are in favor of it.

Willingham asked for anyone else in favor or against three times. None present.

Willingham closed the Public Hearing at 3:30 P.M.

Monica S. Kenealy
Secretary/Bookkeeper