

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 28, 2018
1:30 PM
Minutes**

Mayor Terry Tarsi called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall.

Roll Call: Rodney Dood, Jere Fritsche, Tricia Mercier and Tarsi.

Absent: Dennis Powell

Also present: Attorney Mark Tousignant, Manager David Thayer, and Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance: Abby Miller and Lexi Kinner of Aspirus.

APPROVE MINUTES:

The regular meeting minutes for February 22, 2018 were inadvertently left out of the packet. They will be included for the next regular meeting. No action was taken.

Aspirus Hospital – Sign Height Variance Request: Abby Miller, Marketing and Community Relations Manager at Aspirus, requested approval from the Planning Commission for a conditional land use permit for an off premise highway sign directing traffic to their campus. The request was for a 30’ sign, however the allowance is 24’, so Aspirus is requesting a variance. Thayer added that the placement of the sign is in a ditch with an elevation drop of 9’, hence the request for 30’. Miller explained the landowner has verbally approved the proposal and a formal agreement is being drafted. The off-premise sign location is along US-2 across from Lalley Road.

Thayer stated Aspirus followed the procedures and were approved for an off-premise sign, but with a height of 24’. Thayer feels it will improve the visual aspect with the additional six foot request and also draw people to the campus. Thayer recommends the variance be granted.

Mercier feels it’s a great idea because you will be able to see it. Dood agreed and added that if it installed at the 24’ height, you wouldn’t be able to see other signs. Tarsi asked if Tousignant had any comments, and he did not.

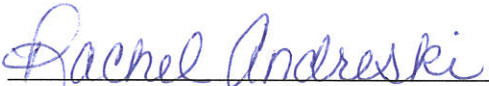
One letter was received by Robert Rometti, owner of The Stand on Lalley Road. He is opposed, depending upon the location, as the sign will hinder business at his location because of lack of visibility. Tarsi asked Miller what her response to this letter is. She stated that that is not the case as it is not near their location. She added this is at a level of priority, as it’s important for the community. She added the sign is within the limits MDOT calls for. Tousignant feels that letter was written regarding the two billboard signs by their location.

There being no public comment, Dood moved, Mercier seconded, to grant the Aspirus Hospital sign height variance request as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes—4: Fritsche, Mercier, Dood and Tarsi. Nays – 0. Motion carried. Absent – 1: Powell.

ADJOURNMENT

Mercier moved to adjourn at 1:39 p.m. Dood seconded. All in favor; Motion carried.



Rachel Andreski, City Clerk