

MANKATO TOWNSHIP Planning Commission

11-19-25

The Nov. 19, 2025 meeting of the Mankato Township PC was called to order by Roxanne Johnson at 6:30 PM at the township hall. PC members present: Dave Turner, Jim Jensen, Dan Rotchadl, Roger Funfsinn and Roxanne. Rox asked for an approval of the minutes from the September 2025 meeting, they were approved as sent.

Agenda updated to include solar panels on the county building. County did give the planner a decommission plan, no bond required.

Planner Victoria Potts presented the request for a variance from Jacob Winkler, the property owner. It is an after the fact variance for side and front yard setbacks in an agricultural district. She explained the request and read the review and findings. The staff recommended denial of the after-the-fact variance. The staff report for the request is attached to the Township Board minutes.

Roxanne asked if there were questions. Discussion held about the process. The owner was told where it could be built, but Jacob built it before a variance was granted.

Jacob Winkler said that the planner wanted more information that wasn't on the original application, rejected what was turned in, and had been getting the run-around.

Roxanne said Jacob knew it needed a variance approval. Jacob admitted he went ahead and built without a variance. Jacob brought a map with his septic tank trying to show he did not have any other site on the lot to place the building. Roxanne disagreed.

Roxanne asked to open it up the public hearing

Bill Winkler, 19944 584 th ave., he said the building would not fit the proposed area without a variance from the township road.

Jake Krone borders the cartway by Winkler and would be concerned about the cartway affects and is okay with the building location.

Roxanne – varainces need practical difficultys, staff said it is not. Uniqueness of the lot- may be.

Dave Turner said the fact is he went ahead without getting a variance beforehand. Jake said he tried to do it right the first time but the planner was difficult.

Bill Winkler said come look at the site and there are no other sites that would work.

Bill said the water running down washed out

Ken Hoffman said if the cartway owner does not oppose it way not approve it.

Roxanne. Closed the public hearing.

After discussion, Roxanne moved to pass on to the board without a recommendation. Second by Dan Rotchadl. Vote was All in favor.

The above application is attached to board minutes.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Dan Fogal

Clerk