WHITLEY COUNTY ADVISORY PLAN COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

24-W-SUBD-11 PARTIAL PLAT VACATION AND PRIMARY REPLAT

Phil and Elaine Smock

JUNE 19, 2024 AGENDA ITEM:

Arrowhead Subdivision, Section 3, east side of 600 E, 1/2 mile south of SR 14

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

24-W-VAC-1

Current zoning: AG, Agricultural <u>Code Minimum Proposed Minimum</u>

Area of plat: 5.42 acres Lot size: 1.837 acres 2.71 acres Number of lots: 2 lots Lot width: 225' 233.87'± Dedicated ROW: Previously dedicated Lot frontage: 50' 233.87'

The petitioners, owners of the subject property, are requesting vacation of part of the previously platted Lot 1 of Arrowhead Section 2, recorded in 2020, and a preliminary replat approval for a two-lot subdivision to be named "Arrowhead Subdivision, Section 3." The proposed plat is located on the east side of 600 East, 2400 feet south of State Road 14, in Section 11 of Jefferson Township. The subject property is currently unimproved.

The petitioner acquired the property in 2022 and now desires to replat 5.42 acres of the 7.64-acre lot as two new lots. The remaining acreage would be vacated from the existing plat and combined with an adjoining parcel.

Platting is required due to previous splits from the parent tract, including Arrowhead Subdivision along SR 14. These are the first and second lots platted from the 2018 parent parcel, so no rezoning is required, but additional platted lots from the 2018 parent parcel will require rezoning. The lots will be used for new home sites.

The proposed plat appears to comply with the development standards of the zoning code as shown in the above table.

UTILITY AND REVIEW COMMENTS

Comment letters received (as of date of staff report)

Electric X Health Cable TV Parcel Cmte. X

Gas Co. Engineer X Sanitary Sewer NA
Telephone SWCD X Water NA

Since right-of-way for the county road was previously dedicated, no additional width is necessary for this plat. 10' drainage and/or utility easements are shown on the perimeters of each lot.

The Soil and Water Conservation District provided standard information regarding storm water pollution prevention plan submittals if the area disturbed exceeds one acre. He also noted that the property, especially Lot 2, has potentially poor and/or wet soils that could complicate construction.

The County Engineer noted that a vacated legal drain is located on Lot 2. Having been vacated, no easement is necessary to be shown on the plat, but drainage flow in the tile must not be obstructed. He also commented driveway placement may be limited to the middle of the plat due to sight distance.

The Parcel Committee had no comments.

As noted in the plat review in 2020, the use of "Section 3" in the name of the subdivision is abnormal, as the term "section" is used to denote parts of a single primary plat or contiguous subdivisions. However, the Commission has permitted this terminology in the past, and there appears to be no need to change it other than convention.

At the time of this writing, separate restrictive covenants have not been submitted for review. It is not unusual for one- and two-lot plats to not have covenants.

WAIVER REQUESTS

There are no waiver requests.

VACATION REVIEW CRITERIA

Indiana Code §36-7-4-711, the Subdivision Control Ordinance, and the Zoning Code provide standards for plat vacations, including a requirement to make determinations regarding the criteria listed below. Staff's comments are under each criterion.

- 1. Conditions in the platted area have changed so as to defeat the original purpose of the plat; The proposed reduction of the platted area will leave a 2.22-acre remainder parcel still in the Arrowhead Section 2 subdivision. A vacation approval is necessary to remove the area from that previous plat. Note that the reconfiguration of the 5.42 acres into the proposed two lots would inherently include a vacation and new plat and so does not require a separate vacation approval.
- 2. It is in the public interest to vacate all or part of the plat; and

The remainder acreage could be a potentially buildable lot, which would, with the creation of the proposed two lots, create three platted lots from the 2018 parent parcel. Doing so would require a rezoning from the current AG zoning district. It is then in the public interest for the petitioner to either rezone to permit three lots, or to vacate the remainder so that only two buildable lots are created.

3. The value of that part of the land in the plat not owned by the petitioner will not be diminished by the vacation.

Currently, the entire plat of Arrowhead Section 2 is owned by the petitioner.

SUBDIVISION REVIEW CRITERIA

Subdivision primary plats are reviewed for compliance with the standards of Subdivision Control Ordinance and the Zoning Code. Staff finds that the proposed primary plat appears consistent with the standards, with the below conditions.

SUGGESTED CONDITIONS

Staff suggests the following condition(s):

- 1. Unless sanitary sewer is to be utilized, two septic sites per lot are to be determined and approved by the Health Department prior to issuance of a building permit for a primary structure.
- 2. Add notation that a mutual private drain tile, as described in IC 36-9-27, is located on the property and activities shall not affect the flow of the tile.
- 3. Add notation that driveways should be located near the south side of Lot 1 and north side of Lot 2, subject to final approval by the County Highway Department.
- 4. Secondary plat approval delegated to the Plan Commission Staff.
- 5. The vacated remainder acreage must be combined with an adjacent parcel.
- 6. The right-of-way previously dedicated in Arrowhead Section 2 is not vacated.

Date report completed: 6/12/2024

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