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Village market gets green light

Pleasant Prairie Board OKs big commercial development

BY JOHN KREROWICZ
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PLEASANT PRAIRIE — Residents have long lamented that there's no convenient place in the village to buy a loaf of bread or a box of cereal.

That should change, now that the Village Board has bought into the idea of a retail center with a grocery store at the northeast corner of Green Bay Road (Highway 31) and Highway 165.

The center, called Main Street Market, also is to have a bank, gas/convenience store, day spa/salon, pharmacy, coffee shop and other businesses.

The board at its Monday

meeting approved a conceptual plan for the shopping spot. The developer, Pleasant Prairie Ventures LLC, hopes to begin excavating by fall, construction during next spring and summer, and then open some stores in fall 2008.

"People are really excited about this," said board trustee Mike Serpe.

The village's population, exceeding 18,000, has finally reached a point where the development's stores could succeed here, said Village President John Steinbrink.

"People have asked over and over again, 'When is something coming?'" he said.

THE VILLAGE'S
population, exceeding 18,000, has finally reached a point where the development's stores could succeed, according to Village President John Steinbrink.

Village Community Development Director Jean Werbie said there have been discussions about the business complex for some 10 years, with more involved talks the past four years.

"With commercial services available in Kenosha and other areas nearby for residents, it

has taken time to develop this," she said.

Resident Judy Kuyawa wrote to village staff last month about how ecstatic she was that the commercial site was being developed. She suggested a book store also.

Not everyone was as pleased. Tiffany Taylor-Spiller, who lives to the east of the planned development, wrote that the new center would diminish values of nearby homes, increase traffic and alter the quiet and rural setting of the area.

The \$30 million development sits on 22.5 acres and will include some 148,000 square feet of retail space. It will have a road, called Main Street, extending, and across from, Jelly Belly Lane, which is on the west side of Green Bay Road. The road will include traffic signals at the intersection with Green Bay Road. The road eventually will extend east to

39th Avenue. The village Plan Commission approved the idea last week.

The Village Board on Monday also approved.

■ A final plat and other documents allowing development of the 63 single-family-lot Devonshire subdivision, south of 93rd Street at 48th Avenue.

■ Recommendations and a report pertaining to the Prairie Springs Park Natural Area/Des Plaines River for a public trail system, improving habitat for wildlife and suggesting educational and research possibilities there.

The report, prepared by the Kenosha-Racine Land Trust, outlines vegetation and how best to manage it given past, poor uses of the land and the expansion of invasive species in the 385-acre area. The tract sits north of Highway 165, east of Interstate 94, west of Highway H, and includes the river.

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