

**Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals  
Staff Report**

**Applicant**

Stephen Klenda  
1673 300th  
Lincolnvile, KS 66858

**Application**

Application number ZP03.089 and ZP03.090. Applicant is requesting to rezone ten (10) acres from "A" Agriculture to "RR" Rural Residential. Applicant is requesting a lot dimension variance of one and fifty-three tenths (1.53) feet from required three hundred and thirty feet.

**Project Description**

Mr. Klenda owns eighty (80) acres in the northeast quarter of Section 10, Township 18 South, Range 3 East. The farmstead is located six miles west and one mile north of the City of Lincolnvile.

This farmstead contains one residence of approximately 1400 sq. ft. The private wastewater system that serves this property is compliant. This property is served by a compliant private water well.

**Planning Issues**

The Public Hearing Notice and Adjacent Property Owner Notification was completed in accordance with the Marion County Zoning Regulations and Kansas State Statutes. No public comments have been received as of January 8, 2004.

The purpose of the "RR" Rural Residential Zone District is to provide a transition zone between agricultural lands and low-density rural residential development. Article 3 of the Marion County Zoning Regulations states that "RR" is suitable in rural locations where adequate public roads and public services are available, but is not suitable in all rural locations. It is inappropriate in areas predominately agricultural in character where public services are adequate only to meet the needs of farm residences and farm operations.

Factors to be considered in a change of zoning classification:

- 1) Whether the change in classification would be consistent with the intent and purpose of the Marion County Zoning Regulations.
- 2) The character and condition of the surrounding neighborhood and its effect on the proposed change.

- 3) Whether the proposed amendment is made necessary because of changed or changing conditions in the area affected, and, if so, the nature of such changed or changing conditions.
- 4) The current zoning and uses of nearby properties, and the effect on existing nearby land uses upon such a change in classification.
- 5) Whether every use that would be permitted on the property as reclassified would be compatible with the uses permitted on other property in the immediate vicinity.
- 6) The suitability of the applicant's property for the uses to which it has been restricted.
- 7) The length of time the subject property has remained vacant or undeveloped as zoned; provided, the use of land for agricultural purposes shall be considered as viable use of the land and not be considered as allowing the land to be vacant or undeveloped.
- 8) Whether adequate sewer and water facilities, and all other needed public services including transportation, exist or can be provided to serve the uses that would be permitted on the property if it were reclassified.
- 9) The general amount of vacant land that currently has the same zoning classification proposed for the subject property, particularly in the vicinity of the subject property, and any special circumstances that make a substantial part of such vacant land available or not available for development.
- 10) The recommendations of permanent or professional staff.
- 11) Whether the proposed amendment would be in conformance to and further enhance the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.
- 12) Whether the relative gain to the public health, safety, and general welfare outweighs the hardship imposed upon the applicant by not upgrading the value of the property by such a reclassification.
- 13) Such other factors as may be relevant from the facts and evidence presented in the application.

The Marion County Zoning Regulations provide that the following conditions must be met in order to grant a variance:

- 1) The variance requested arises from such condition, which is unique to the property in question and which is not ordinarily found in the same zone or district; and is not created by and action or actions of the property owner(s) or the applicant.
- 2) The granting of the permit for the variance will not adversely affect the rights of adjacent property owners or residents.
- 3) The strict application of the provisions of the Marion County Zoning Regulations of which a variance is requested will constitute unnecessary hardship upon the property owner represented in the application.
- 4) The variance desired will not adversely affect the public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, or general welfare.

5) That granting the variance will not be opposed to the general spirit and intent of the Marion County Zoning Regulations. The purpose of the variance is to provide relief where normal adherence to the regulations is not possible.

Section 10 of Clark Township does not contain a "RR" Rural Residential Zone District at present time.

Property is adjacent to a solid gravel road.

**Staff Recommendation**

Approve a recommendation to rezone ten (10) acres from an "A" Agricultural Zone District to "RR" Rural Residential Zone District. (REASON: Application comparable to precedent set by approval of similar applications.)

Deny approval of lot dimension variance. (REASON: Applicant knew dimension requirements before survey was completed. Denial does not place undo hardship on applicant. Approval of variance adds to precedent of approval of similar future applications.)