

Town still working on regulations

Written by MARK JAEGER

Wednesday, 29 January 2014 16:45

Draft ordinances seek permits for outdoor performances, receptions

Town of Fredonia officials are still tweaking draft ordinances designed to regulate two businesses.

The focus is on outdoor concerts and a proposed bed-and-breakfast reception venue.

The Plan Commission has spent several months crafting an ordinance that would give officials greater control over outdoor music performances, an issue which has caused some division among neighbors of the Little Kohler Haus.

The commission is also wrestling with how to regulate a multi-purpose business proposed by Joanne VanDyck at W4907 Hilltop Rd.

VanDyck said she intends to call the bed-and-breakfast Joanne's Hilltop Haven.

According to the latest draft ordinance being considered by the commission, bars would be allowed to secure permits for up to eight outdoor performances a year.

Under the proposed wording, outdoor music would be allowed from noon to 11 p.m.

If the performances are deemed to be a nuisance, permits would be cancelled for the rest of the year.

Applications for permits would have to be made to the town clerk at least seven days prior to any scheduled event.

The definition section of the proposed ordinance specifies that the regulation would apply "to all live action performances provided for customers, including, but not limited to live bands, DJs, musical performances, comedy acts, dance reviews and other similar forms of entertainment."

The draft ordinance says the permit process would not apply to the Flag Day celebration held annually in Waubeka.

Similarly, a proposed ordinance would also set down the rules for the operation of a bed-and-breakfast, including obtaining a license from the town.

The operator would have to live in the building being offered for rent, according to the draft ordinance.

Operation of such lodging would be considered a permitted accessory use under the town's exclusive agriculture zoning, according to the proposal.

Private events, including wedding receptions, held at the venue would also need to be approved by the town via a permit.

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Among the conditions being considered is the requirement that adequate off-street parking be available to handle the number of people expected at the event, and that alcohol not be sold on the property.

As in the entertainment permit, outdoor music would only be allowed from noon to 11 p.m.

If a complaint is filed in either case, the Town Board would decide whether a permit should be revoked.

The draft wordings are expected to get another review from the Plan Commission next week.