Polk County Zoning Commission Monday, January 27, 2020 Staff Report



Thomsen Estates - Preliminary Plat

Applicant:

Matteson A. Thomsen (Owner), represented by Tharen Helgerson with Nilles Associates, Inc.

Request:

Preliminary plat approval of a major subdivision plat

Legal Description:

The subject property is located in the Part of the NE ¼ NW ¼ of Section 27, of Elkhart Township. Said parcel contains 28.15 acres±.

General Location:

The property is located approximately ¼ mile east of the NE 46th Street and NE 134th Avenue intersection. The property has the following Geoparcel# of 8123-27-126-001. (*Attachment 'A'*)

Existing Zoning: "ER" Estate Residential District

Surrounding Zoning:

North: "AG" Agricultural District

East: "ER" Estate Residential District

South: "AG" Agricultural District

West: "ER" Estate Residential District

Waiver Request:

- Access for more than one (1) building lot shall not access on a gravel roadway.
- Allowance of a residential block longer than 1,320-feet.

See Attachment 'B' for submitted waiver requests.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

This preliminary plat (*Attachment 'C'*) proposes two (2) single-family residential lots and one (1) outlot on approximately 28.15-acres. The property is zoned "ER" Estate Residential District and is being developed utilizing the Standard Development Option. The subject property has approximately 933 feet of frontage along NE 134th Avenue that is a local two-lane gravel road maintained by Polk County. NE 134th Avenue terminates approximately ¼ mile east of the subject properties eastern boundary. The property extends to the south approximately 1,318-

feet. Lot 1 of the proposed subdivision plat has an approximately 623-foot frontage along NE 134th Avenue and a 20.48-acre lot size. Lot 2 has a 310-foot frontage along NE 134th Avenue creating a 3.89-acre rectangular parcel. Adjacent to the south of Lot 2 is a proposed Outlot 2A that the developer intends to retain with Lot 2.

A waiver is being requested from the *Polk County Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision Plat Design Standards, Section 2 Access, (A) (3)*. This requirement states the following:

Access for more than one (1) building lot shall not access on a gravel roadway. If development for more than one (1) lot is proposed on existing gravel roadway, improvements across the frontage of the development to make the road hard surfaced shall be provided by the developer.

The waiver is to the limitation of one (1) access onto a gravel road. Both of the proposed lots are planned to have access onto NE 134th Avenue. The waiver is also being requested for the block length. A layout of the proposed development is included as Attachment 'C'. The subject property is located adjacent to the southeast of the City of Elkhart Corporate Limits.

The topography of the site varies significantly with a high point of 947-feet identified throughout the southwestern portions of the property. The low point is 895-feet located along the defined floodplain boundary of the drainageway that meanders through the property. The subject property is located within the Zone A Special Flood Hazard Area. Significant tree cover exists along the floodplain and generally throughout the property. Future improvements to the property is subject to Article 7, Section 4, "Natural Resource Protection, Woodlands" of the Polk County Zoning Ordinance, which would require a maximum of 75 percent of the existing mature woodlands to be preserved and 50 percent of existing young woodlands to be preserved or mitigation on the property. Water service is provided by Des Moines Water Works. Sewer service is not available and individual wastewater systems will be required.

STAFF REVIEW:

Staff has reviewed this plat for compliance with the Polk County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances as a major subdivision plat submittal. The current Zoning Ordinance allows one single family home to have access onto a gravel road. The addition of a second lot and two single family homes would trigger the requirement for an existing gravel roadway to be improved by the developer therefore making the road hard surfaced. Polk County does not plan to improve this roadway in the future. The plat is proposing two lots that will take access onto NE 134th Avenue and would appear to have minimal impact on the roadway. The surrounding properties to the north of the subject property are zoned "AG" Agricultural District and have limited development potential in the future within Unincorporated Polk County. Six (6) single-family homes currently take access onto NE 134th Avenue between the intersection of NE 46th Street and NE 134th Avenue and the terminus of NE 134th Avenue. The limited future use of the gravel road due to the termination of the street and that Polk County does not plan to improve or extend support the requested waiver. The topography of the subject property and adjacent properties, along with the drainageways in this area, would restrict the extension of connecting residential streets to meet the block length requirement.

Lot density, dimensions, frontage, access, and waivers have been reviewed. Pending approval, re-submittals will be needed in order to address staff comments. At this stage, the Commission's action would affirm, deny, or amend the overall plat layout.

This plat is within the two-mile extraterritorial review jurisdiction of the City of Elkhart, and the jurisdiction may choose to waive their review or review this subdivision through their processes. Staff notified the City of Elkhart of the preliminary plat submittal, but have not received comments to date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Preliminary Plat of Thomsen Estates as well as the requested waiver from the requirement to construct hard surface improvements to a gravel road if a development of more than one (1) lot is proposed on an existing gravel roadway and the waiver from the block length requirement.

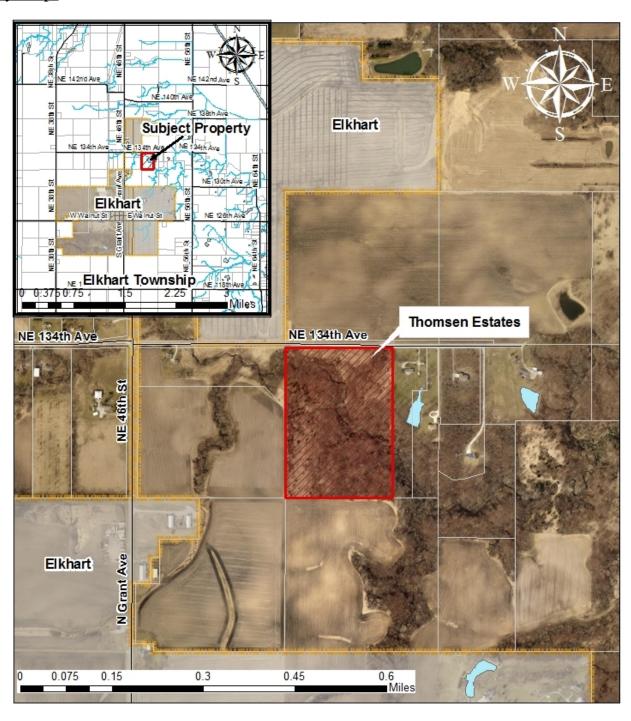
Thomsen Estates Preliminary Plat

PLAT INFORMATION: This major preliminary subdivision plat proposes two (2) single-family residential lots, one (1) outlot, and one (1) street lot on 28.15 acres of land zoned "ER" Estate Residential District.

SEWER: Individual septic systems **WATER:** Des Moines Water Works

TOWNSHIP: Elkhart **OWNER/DEVELOPER:** Matteson A. Thomsen

Vicinity Map:



1250 SW State Street, Suite A Ankeny, IA 50023-2555 (515) 965-0123 – (515) 965-3322 fax nillesinc.com



Civil Engineering – Land Surveying – Landscape Architecture

November 26, 2019

Polk County Zoning Commission Polk County Planning Division 5885 NE 14th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50313

RE: Thomsen Estates – Preliminary Plat Submittal

Honorable Members of the Zoning Commission:

On behalf of Ms. Thomsen, we are requesting the Zoning Commission to waive the following requirement for a major subdivision:

Polk County Subdivision Ordinance, Article 5 Subdivision Plat Design Standards, Section 18. Blocks (A):

No residential block shall be longer than one thousand three hundred and twenty (1320) feet or twelve (12) times the minimum lot width for the district, whichever is less, unless the Zoning Commission approves a longer distance in a Neighborhood Access Plan.

The purpose of this subdivision is to create 2 buildable lots that will have adequate existing street frontage. We feel that the block length requirement is not necessary given the location of the property on a dead-end road, the existing terrain of the property and the lack of future development potential in the area.

If you should have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me to discuss such items further. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tharen J. Helgerson, PLS

NILLES ASSOCIATES, INC.

Phone: 515-418-7250

Email: tharen@nillesinc.com

1250 SW State Street, Suite A Ankeny, IA 50023-2555 (515) 965-0123 – (515) 965-3322 fax nillesinc.com



Civil Engineering - Land Surveying - Landscape Architecture

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RE: Thomsen Estates – Preliminary Plat Submittal

Honorable Members of the Zoning Commission:

On behalf of Ms. Thomsen, we are requesting the Zoning Commission to waive the following requirement for a major subdivision:

Polk County Subdivision Ordinance, Subdivision Plat Design Standards, Section 2.

Access, (A)(3), Access for more than one (1) building lot shall not access on a gravel roadway. If development for more than one (1) lot is proposed on existing gravel roadway, improvements across the frontage of the development to make the road hard surfaced shall be provided by the developer.

The purpose of this subdivision is to create 2 buildable lots that will have adequate existing street frontage. We feel that improving the street to make it hard surfaced is not necessary given the location of the property on a dead end road, the existing terrain of the property and the lack of future development potential in the area.

If you should have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me to discuss such items further. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tharen J. Helgerson, PLS

NILLES ASSOCIATES, INC.

Phone: 515-418-7250

Email: tharen@nillesinc.com

PRELIMINARY PLAT

COUNTY: POLK COUNTY, IOWA CITY: ELKHART

SEC 27 - TWP 81 NORTH - RGE 23 WEST, NE 1/4 OF NW 1/4 **REQUESTED BY** MATTESON A THOMSEN & PROPRIETOR: 1717 WINDWOOD TRAIL

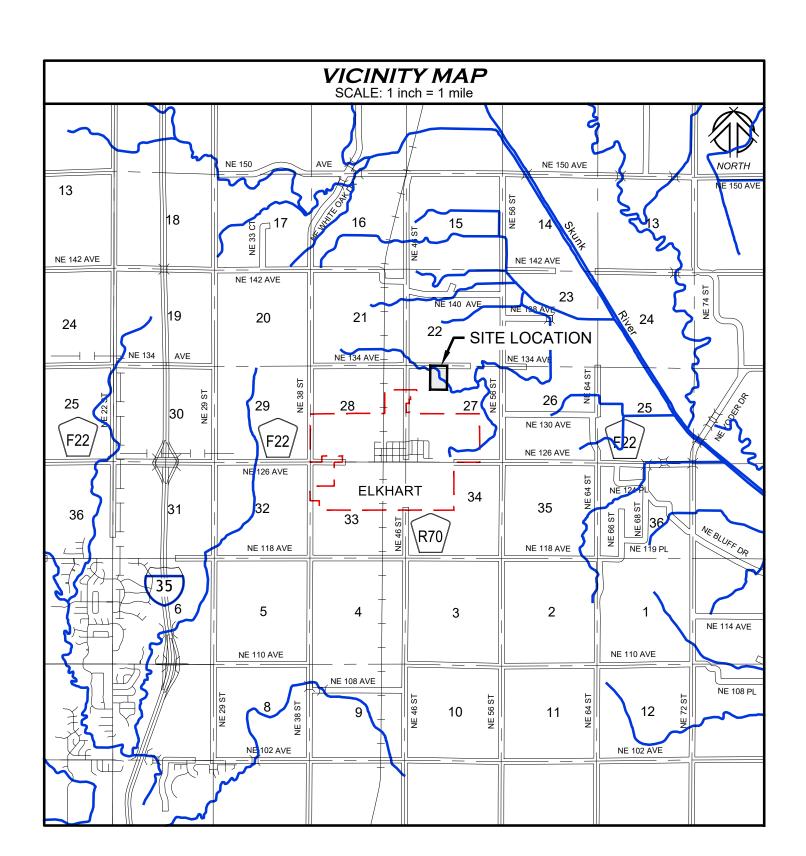
SURVEYOR: THAREN J. HELGERSON, PLS #18530 SURVEY COMPANY: NILLES ASSOCIATES, INC. **RETURN TO:** THAREN J. HELGERSON, NILLES ASSOCIATES, INC.

1250 SW STATE STREET, SUITE A

ANKENY, IOWA 50023 PH: (515) 965-0123

PROLE, IA 50229

LEGEND Existing / Proposed Existing / Proposed Found monument 5/8" IR with yellow Round iron rebar Round iron pipe Set monument 5/8" IR with red cap Portland cement concrete #18530 unless otherwise noted ACC Asphaltic cement concrete Found monument 5/8" IR with red Pipe flowline elevation cap #18530 unless otherwise noted Reinforced concrete pipe 1234 Address CMP Corrugated metal pipe Spot elevation Corrugated plastic pipe Sanitary sewer manhole PVC Polyvinyl chloride pipe Storm sewer manhole P.U.E. Public utilty easement D.E. Drainage easement MidAmerican Energy Company M.E.C. Surface water flowage easement P.W.E. Water valve P.S.S.E. Private sanitary sewer easement Water service shut-off Back of curb to back of curb Water main manhole Subject boundary line Monitoring well Yard hydrant Section line Well Proposed boundary line WELD Gas meter Existing boundary line Future boundary line Gas valve Air conditioning unit Electric manhole Electric meter Electric pedestal Electric transformer Barbed wire fence line Chain-link fence line Utility hand hole T———— Straw Wattle Utility pole Utility pole with light Sanitary sewer & size Light pole ---- St Storm sewer and size Guy wire Traffic signal ---- G — Gas main & size Traffic signal with light Overhead electric & wires Traffic manhole —— OHC ——— Overhead communication Communication pedestal Telephone booth ---- Underground television TV pedestal ----- UGC — Underground communication **O** Billboard sign Street sign Down spout ____ · __ · __ · __ · __ · __ Edge of water Tree shrub — — Existing FEMA flood zone line Deciduous tree and trunk diameter _____ 100 year High Water Level Coniferous tree . Edge of tree dripline and trunk diameter



BENCHMARK

1. Northwest corner of Lot 1, THOMSEN ESTATES Found 3/4" IP with orange cap #12971 Elevation = 916.96 feet (NAVD88)

SURVEY NOTES

- 1. Land area: 28.15 acres
- 2. Zoning: ER ESTATE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Restrictions (I.E., building setbacks, height and bulk regulations, etc.) shown hereon are based on information provided and are subject to interpretation. We cannot certify to a restriction on the basis of an interpretation or the opinion of another

3. Bulk Regulations

- Minimum lot size 3 acres
- Minimum lot width 225 feet
- Front setback 75 feet
- Rear setback 75 feet
- Side setback 25 feet

Addresses:

- Lot 1 XXX NE 134th Avenue
- Lot 2 XXX NE 134th Avenue
- 9. The north line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 81 North, Range 23 West, is assumed to bear South 89 degrees 30 minutes 13 seconds East.
- 10. The property is within FEMA Zone A and X, as shown on Flood Insurance Rate Map Community Panel Number, 19153C 0070 F, with an effective date of February 1, 2019. Zone A is considered a special flood hazard area without base flood elevations. Zone X is considered a 0.2% annual chance flood hazard area, areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile.
- 11. The existing water main easement on the property will be vacated and replaced with the proposed water main easement shown on the plat.
- 12. Water service to the proposed subdivision is provided by Des Moines Water Works.
- 13. The owners of Lot 1 and Lot 2 shall hire a licensed professional engineer to design and inspect the installation of any culvert and erosion control measures to be placed within any drainage easements located on Lots 1 and 2.
- 14. Driveway entrances onto NE 134th Avenue for Lots 1 and 2 should be located outside the Drainage Easements. The driveways themselves may cross a drainage easement.
- 15. All services to utilities located on the opposite side of the roadway must be bored under the roadway at the lot owner's
- 16. Outlot 2A is not a buildable lot and shall be consolidated with Lot 2.
- 17. A drainage easement shall encompass all of Outlot 2A.
- 18. Mailboxes within the road right-of-way shall be of a breakaway design.
- 19. Any subsurface drainage facilities that are disturbed must be restored or rerouted by the property owner.
- 20. Maintenance of all drainage easements to be the responsibility of the property owner.
- 21. Street Lot A shall be dedicated to Polk County for roadway purposes.
- 22. Post development runoff will not adversely affect downstream drainage facilities or property owners.
- 23. It shall be the Developer's responsibility to apply for and obtain any storm water discharge permits from the lowa Department of Natural Resources.
- 24. Sewer service will be provided by onsite wastewater treatment systems located on individual lots. Due to soil types, limitations, and disturbance, alternative septic systems may be required. Individual wastewater treatment systems shall be designed by an Engineer.
- 25. Subdivision is subject to Article 7, Section 4 of the Polk County Zoning Ordinance, Natural Resource Protection -Woodlands, requiring protection levels for young and mature woodlands.
- 26. Utility service providers:
 - (CEE) CONSUMERS ENERGY
 - Contact Name : Jim Kidd
 - Contact Phone: 6417541642
 - Contact Email: jkidd@consumersenergy.coop

(M57E) MIDAMER-ELEC Contact Name : Craig Ranfeld

- Contact Phone: 5152526632
- $Contact\ Email:\ \underline{MECDSMDesignLocates@midamerican.com}$

(M57G) MIDAMER-GAS

- Contact Name : Craig Ranfeld
- Contact Phone: 5152526632
- Contact Email: MECDSMDesignLocates@midamerican.com
- (DMWW) DES MOINES WATER WORKS
- Contact Name : Chris Mlynarik or Jana Hodges
- Contact Phone: 5152838729
- Contact Email: Mlynarik@dmww.com or hodges@dmww.com

(WINIA)WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS

- Contact Name : LOCATE DESK
- Contact Phone: 8002891901
- Contact Email: LOCATE.DESK@WINDSTREAM.COM

THOMSEN ESTATES

The Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter EXCEPT the East 12 Acres thereof, of Section 27, Township 81 North, Range 23 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, located in Polk County, lowa, being more particularly described as follows:

degrees 30 minutes 13 seconds East, along the north line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, a distance of 933.88 feet, to the west line of said East 12 Acres of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, a distance of 1318.23 feet, to the south line of said Northeast 925.04 feet, along said south line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, to the west line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 54 seconds West, along said west line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, a distance of 1319.96 feet, to the Point of

Said parcel is subject to any and all restrictions, covenants and easements of record



NT WAS PREPARED AND THE DER MY DIRECT PERSONAL EVEYOR UNDER THE LAWS OF THE PAGES OR SHEETS COVERED BY THIS SEAL: SHEETS PP-1 & PP-2 ONLY

MY LICENSE RENEWAL DATE IS DECEMBER 31, 2020

DATE OF SURVEY: 12/17/19

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

THOMSEN ESTATES

Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27; thence South 89 Section 27; thence South 00 degrees 13 minutes 06 seconds West, along said west line of the East 12 Acres of the Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27; thence North 89 degrees 36 minutes 22 seconds West, a distance of

Containing 28.15 acres more or less.

CERTIFICATION

18530	I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS LAND SURVEYING DOCUMENT RELATED SURVEY WORK WAS PERFORMED BY ME OR UNDE SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED LAND SURV STATE OF IOWA.	
/OWA	SIGNATURE	DATE
NAL I AND	THAREN J. HELGERSON, L.S. NO. 18530	
*****	MAY LIGENISE DENEMAL DATE IS DESCRIBED OF 1000	

ESTATES COUNTY, IOWA

NAI NO.: 18144 DATE: 11/12/19 DRAWN BY: TJH

SCALE: AS NOTED

