

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES

Tuesday, November 24, 2020 - 7:30pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: Chairman Gerry Mrosla, Commissioners Henry, Spisak, Smitten, Sanderson.

Citizens present: Larry Martin, Gwen Roden, Juli Hagstrom.

Chairman Mrosla called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Wireless Communications Ordinance progress update

Commissioner Spisak reported that council had generally accepted the request for consultant services and will consider options for funding in the 2021 budget at the Truth in Taxation meeting, Dec. 1. The group is in communication with the consultant about a timeline.

Zoning Code updates

Chairman Mrosla noted that the memo was almost ready.

Addressing the issue of adult residential care, including facilities, “granny pods,” etc., Commissioner Henry expressed hope that the council will tackle zoning elements sooner rather than later, saying the topic is vast and she would be happy to assist in the future.

On the topic of day care facilities, Smitten noted that in the proposed ordinance they are allowed by conditional use permit in residential zones. Including definitions of day care as for children or minors would be OK. If someone wants to have an in-home day care I think we can support that. It was in the code previously as a permitted use. The memo should have a definition or explanation of residential care so that the council understands that it’s addressing adult care.

Strike residential care facilities throughout – keep in memo. Keep day care facilities under conditional use.

The commission considered whether to prioritize the list in the table, ultimately deciding that all of the items were important and to keep the existing order.

Commissioner Spisak moved to approve the amended and updated zoning ordinance revisions, dated Nov. 20, 2020, and move them to council for consideration, approval and adoption. Smitten seconded. Roll call vote: Mrosla – Aye; Spisak – Aye; Smitten – Aye; Sanderson – Aye; Henry – Aye. Draft Zoning Ordinance approved.

Spisak moved to approved the memo, saying, “After extensive and exhaustive review of the Marine on St. Croix Zoning Code the Planning Commission has identified 22 items in the

attached memo that need council consideration, review, and further direction. The Planning Commission requests that the council address these issues, many of which represent gaps in the code and vulnerability to the city.” Smitten seconded. Roll call vote: Mroska – Aye; Sanderson – Aye; Smitten – Aye; Spisak – Aye; Henry – Aye. Memo approved.

New and Old Business

Commissioner terms: Brenner, Spisak, and Sanderson’s terms are coming to an end. Mroska will get in touch with them to see if they’re interested in being appointed for another term. He thanked them, and the entire commission.

Approval of minutes

November 10 Meeting

Sanderson moved and Spisak seconded approval of the minutes of the November 10 meeting. Roll call vote: Mroska – Aye; Smitten – Aye; Spisak – Aye; Sanderson – Aye; Henry – Abstain. Minutes approved as drafted.

Adjournment

Spisak moved and Henry seconded to adjourn at 8:21 pm. Roll call vote: Mroska – Aye; Henry – Aye; Smitten – Aye; Sanderson – Aye; Spisak – Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Suzanne Dammann, Assistant City Clerk.