

CITY OF OSKALOOSA
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 2019

A regularly-scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission for the City of Oskaloosa was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 5, 2019, by Chair Wyndell Campbell at 220 South Market Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Robb Beane, Pamela Blomgren, Wyndell Campbell, R. D. Keep, Linda Russell and Mike Sereg. COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None. CITY STAFF PRESENT: Shawn Christ, Akhilesh Pal and Marilyn Johannes. OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy DeJong and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Van Kampen.

Minutes from the January 8, 2019 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

It was moved by Keep, seconded by Russell to approve the January 8, 2019 Planning and Zoning Commission minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens to be Heard

Darrell Van Kampen, 307 North L, commented regarding a noise concern.

Consider a request to authorize the vacation and sale of the 66.5 foot by 16.5 foot section of the north-south alley adjacent to 315 North L Street.

Staff received an alley vacate request from the property owners of 315 North L Street, Jackie and Chuck Ferree, for the north-south alley adjacent to their property. The subject alley is located in a General Commercial (GC) zoning district.

Pal noted that staff sent out surveys to seven adjoining property owners in the area of the alley and received comments from six, three for and three against the alley vacate. Pal also said there is underground cable in the alley so a permanent easement would need to be required for utility access if the alley is vacated.

Terry DeJong, 1312 C Avenue West, commented that he and his brother who own Fred's Muffler Shop and the warehouse adjacent to 315 North L, are against the alley vacate because it would make it difficult to get vehicles in and out of their warehouse.

Campbell told DeJong they would have the opportunity to purchase half of the alley which would be approximately 8 1/4 feet and asked if that would give them enough access to the warehouse. DeJong commented it would make it tough with only 8 1/4 feet.

Russell asked if the owner of 315 North L Street was present and she got no response. Russell wanted to know why they wanted to purchase the alley.

Darrell Van Kampen, 307 North L Street, commented that he was not in favor of the alley vacate and said it would be difficult for his garbage hauler to get to his dumpster and it would not give him adequate access to load and unload his trailer.

It was moved by Keep, seconded by Sereg to deny the request to vacate and sell the 66.5 foot by 16.5 foot section of the north-south alley adjacent to 315 North L. Street and the vote was: YES – Beane, Blomgren, Campbell, Keep, Russell and Sereg. NAYS – None. Motion carried.

Comprehensive Plan review

Christ told the commission the last Comprehensive Plan was completed in 2000 and the ending year of design is 20 years. Christ said is it time to start preparing a new plan. Blomgren said there have been a lot changes since Council approved the current plan and it is time for an update. Russell said it is important to plan what affects us years down the road instead of just deal with matters on a day-to-day basis.

Campbell mentioned how valuable the ISU training is to the commission and said he thought another class should be held. Christ said he thought the nearest courses currently scheduled by ISU are in April in Fairfield. Russell said perhaps if the city would partner with neighboring communities that ISU would hold a class in Oskaloosa. Campbell said the class is very beneficial.

Christ noted that on the next Planning and Zoning Commission agenda will be an item for election of officers for the calendar year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Minutes by Marilyn Johannes