

HOMER ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 2015

Session 15-01, a Regular Meeting of the Homer Advisory Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Stead at 6:30 p.m. on January 7, 2015 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS BOS, BRADLEY, ERICKSON, HIGHLAND, STEAD, STROOZAS

ABSENT: VENUTI

STAFF: CITY PLANNER ABBOUD
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

Approval of Agenda

Chair Stead called for a motion to approve the agenda.

HIGHLAND/STROOZAS SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Public Comment

The public may speak to the Planning Commission regarding matters on the agenda that are not scheduled for public hearing or plat consideration. (3 minute time limit).

None

Reconsideration

None

Adoption of Consent Agenda

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by the Planning Commission and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Planning Commissioner or someone from the public, in which case the item will be moved to the regular agenda and considered in normal sequence.

A. Approval of Minutes of December 3, 2014

Chair Stead called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

BOS/STROOZAS SO MOVED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Presentations

None

Reports

- A. Staff Report PL 15-01, City Planner's Report

City Planner Abboud reviewed the staff report.

The group talked generally about the new marijuana legislation and what other communities have done, and also the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) list amendments.

Public Hearings

Testimony limited to 3 minutes per speaker. The Commission conducts Public Hearings by hearing a staff report, presentation by the applicant, hearing public testimony and then acting on the Public Hearing items. The Commission may question the public. Once the public hearing is closed the Commission cannot hear additional comments on the topic. The applicant is not held to the 3 minute time limit.

None

Plat Consideration

None

Pending Business

- A. Staff Report PL 15-02, Towers

City Planner Abboud reviewed the staff report.

Commissioner Erickson was excused at 7:00 p.m.

The Commission discussed the effect of towers on the view shed, federal government laws that govern towers, and fall zones. They also addressed information in the Mat-Su ordinance compared to the Kenai ordinance. City Planner Abboud thinks the Mat-Su ordinance contains the most modern information he has found and suggested they review and work through the ordinance. The Commission agreed to go through it at their next worksession and also address fall zones, and then bring it back at their February meeting.

New Business

- A. Staff Report PL 15-04, Storm Water

City Planner Abboud reviewed the staff report.

There was discussion that the city's current storm water system is engineered and that is an open ditch system with a lot of drainage into wetlands. It would be good to know what state the current system is in. Given the amount of money it will take to try to make a perfect scenario, maybe the place to start is to take a good look at what we have and make it operate properly. Maybe through that process other possibilities for the system can be addressed.

Chair Stead asked that the Storm Water Master Plan be added to their February 4th worksession.

In relation to the current plan, it was suggested they consider revising numbers and calibration in response to the increased rain over the last few years. Including the state and local agencies like NRSC in discussions to garner their expertise was also suggested. Doing nothing can cost a lot of money down the line.

Informational Materials

- A. City Manager's Report for December 8, 2014 City Council Meeting
- B. Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission preliminary plat 1-year time extension request
 - Bay View Sub 2013 Replat

Comments of the Audience

Members of the audience may address the Commission on any subject. (3 minute time limit)

None

Comments of Staff

None

Comments of the Commission

Commissioner Highland commented that she doesn't want to give up on the storm water, she thinks it is a worthwhile endeavor.

Commissioner Bradley agreed with Ms. Highland.

Commissioner Bos commented that a while back there was discussion of doing clearing of brush, trails, and so forth. He has been seeing some clearing of properties around Pioneer Avenue that look really nice. We are having a no snow year but the ground is frozen, so this would be a fantastic time to do some of that on the Town Center land.

Chair Stead said he appreciates work they are doing; these are great projects and needed projects to work on. He looks forward to the next meeting.

Adjourn

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There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers. A worksession will be held at 5:30 p.m.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____