



MINUTES

Committee on Development and Planning

Monday, May 21, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Hussain called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Hussain, Chair

Council Member Spitzley, Vice-Chair

Council Member Washington, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff

John Shaski

Bill Rieske, Economic Development & Planning

Greg Venker, Assistant City Attorney – arrived at 4:03 p.m.

Kathie Dunbar, At –Large Council Member

Kathy Miles

Elaine Womboldt

Patrice Drainville

Joslin Monahan, Representative for Z-1-2017

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 7, 2018 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

RESOLUTION – Appointment; John Shaski; 2nd Ward Member of Planning Board; Term to Expire June 30, 2022

Mr. Shaski detailed his experience in Lansing as a resident for 20 years, 5 in the City of Lansing and owner of a residence in Ward 2. He noted his work experience over the last ten (10) years has been at Sparrow in government relations. Mr. Shaski currently sits on the Airport Authority and been advised he can continue on that board.

Council Member Washington asked what his practice would be when reviewing applications for the Planning Board.

Council Member Spitzley stepped away from the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Mr. Shaski assured the Committee he would uphold the values of what the constituents want and will not be lead directed by someone else's opinion.

Council Member Spitzley returned to the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

Council Member Washington then asked Mr. Shaski if he had any concerns with recusing himself if there was a conflict, and which Mr. Shaski assured the Committee he would recuse himself. Council Member Washington provided information on the Ward 2 monthly meetings to Mr. Shaski and encouraged him to attend. Mr. Shaski acknowledged that he was interested in community outreach and would make attempts to attend and keep the community updated.

Ms. Womboldt supported the appointment and his plan to recuse himself from any conflict of interest, along with his stand on not being told what to do.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN SHASKI AS THE 2ND WARD MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Appointment; James Tischler; City of Lansing Member on Local Development Finance Authority; Term to Expire June 30, 2020

The applicant was not present and Council staff was asked to reschedule for the next meeting.

ORDINANCE - Z-1-2017; 4215 N Grand River; Rezone from "D-1" Professional Office to "F" Commercial District

Council Member Hussain recapped the process thus far, which included the required public hearing, and the next step which is action at this Committee to move back to Council. He did note there was a question at the public hearing about the timeline since it appeared they applied back in early 2017.

Mr. Rieske stated from the information he had, based on the number "2017" they applied in 2017.

Ms. Monahan confirmed the applicants petitioned in December 2016, at which time they were already operating their business. In early 2017 the spoke to the then Development and Planning office and were advised that the department was not going to consider the application because there was no medical marihuana ordinances, and it was evident it was an active business, and therefore were told to address the rezoning until the ordinance was passed. Their understanding was that since there was no finality in what the ordinance was going to say on setbacks, activities, it was the departments' opinion the application needed to be addressed when the ordinance was final. Therefore, she concluded, once the ordinance was passed they took up the action again.

Ms. Womboldt spoke in opposition to the rezoning request, noting in her opinion that the applicant chose to rezone because they were not going to get the license under the current ordinance. In addition she voiced a concern with the rezoning's impact on the surrounding residential.

Ms. Miles spoke in opposition to the rezoning with her concern that if it was rezoned the whole strip could be rezoned. She noted that Ms. Stachowiak stated to her, that was her intent was to rezone the whole area.

Council Member Dunbar asked Mr. Rieske to follow up on any statements Ms. Stachowiak might have stated, but added that her "intent" statement was that it might have been rezoned because of the Master Plan, not her personal intent. Ms. Miles stated her opinion that the Master Plan has the whole area heavy industrial. Mr. Rieske stated to the public that the Master Plan was adopted in 2012 and shows that property corridor for suburban commercial, and to essentially rezoning to commercial follows the Master Plan and the plan for entire strip.

Council Member Washington clearly stated that under Ms. Stachowiak was present, no one could speak to her "intent", and she then concluded she was opposed to the rezoning because in her opinion it was spot zoning.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO MOVE THE ORDINANCE TO COUNCIL WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR DENIAL. MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

Other

Council Member Hussain placed the Land Lease for 2101 E. Mt. Hope; Verizon Cell Tower at Crego Park on file.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Submitted by, Sherrie Boak,

Recording Secretary,

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on June 4, 2018