

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in the Municipal Building at 5:15 p. m. on April 14, 2014.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Mr. Hicks rendered the invocation.

VISITORS: Aaron Sizemore Mount Rogers Planning District Commission.

PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Bob Ramsey, Alice Freeman, Avery Cornett, Jim Barker, Dan Surface, Ben Reedy, Town Engineer/Zoning Administrator Cecil Hicks, Town Attorney Mark Fenyk and Deputy Clerk Anita Catron.

ABSENT: Chairman Cameron Wolfe.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: The meeting was called to order, and with 6 voting members present, the Commission has a quorum.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Surface, seconded by Mrs. Freeman and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held March 10, 2014 were approved.

REPORT OF SECRETARY: No report.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: No report.

Vice-Chairman Ramsey stated he was going to change the Agenda order and have Election of Officers first. He then stated the only two offices were for Chairman, held by Cameron Wolfe, and Vice-Chairman, which he(Bob Ramsey) holds. Vice-Chairman Ramsey then opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Barker made a motion to leave the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as they are if both will accept these positions. This motion was seconded by Mr. Surface and with a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, members voted to leave Cameron Wolfe as Chairman of Planning Commission and Bob Ramsey as Vice-Chairman.

OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION OF REQUESTED DEFINITIONS AND CONTINUED ZONING ORDINANCE REVIEW: Vice-Chairman Ramsey began discussion with the requested definitions for Townhouses, Cluster Homes and Lot Requirements from other localities. Mr. Sizemore and Mr. Barker gave members definitions they had found. After discussion, members feel wording needs to be changed on page 24 section 8.11-03 of the Zoning Ordinance to state the correct Building Code reference. Also, add a line item for Townhouses to the definitions section of the Zoning Ordinance, to state that Townhouses must be more than three (3) units but not more than eight (8) and refer readers to page 24 section 8.11-03. for more information on Townhouses. Mr. Sizemore stated he cannot find a clear definition for Cluster Homes. Lot Requirement definitions for Townhouses are comparable with other localities. With no other comments, Vice-Chairman Ramsey stated the other requested definition deals with Kennels, and asked for comments. After discussion, no changes will be made with regards to Kennels.

Members now feel they are ready to review all requested changes, and have requested the list be mailed to them so they may review and make notes before the next meeting. They would like for Ken Heath and Olivia Hall to review the changes with regards to the downtown area, and suggest any changes they feel will better the downtown area. They would also request Mr. Rush to attend the Planning Commission meeting for comments or suggestions regarding the changes they are going to make. They feel the updated Zoning Ordinance will soon be ready to submit to Council for review. Council will then set a Joint Public Hearing with Planning Commission.

Mark Fenyk reminded members that the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance must be reviewed for possible changes and corrections every 5 years.

With no other comments, Vice-Chairman Ramsey asked for other items that may need to be discussed.

Mrs. Freeman requested Mr. Hicks to check the sign at Mountain Empire Federal Credit Union for possible sight distraction. She also reminded members that upon completion of this review, the Planning Commission will begin to meet quarterly again.

Vice-Chairman Ramsey thanked Mr. Sizemore and Mr. Fenyk for their assistance and reminded everyone the next meeting will be scheduled for May 12, 2014.

Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Reedy and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary