

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on October 10, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Cameron Wolfe, Vice Chairperson Kimberly Austin, Bob Ramsey, Jim Barker, Ben Reedy and Alice Freeman Planning Commissions Members; Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Bill Rush, Town Attorney Mark Fenyk and Deputy Clerk Paula Null.

**ABSENT:** Trey White.

**VISITORS:** Sandy Bryant – Mt. Rogers Community Services, Kathy Cressel – Mt. Rogers Community Services, Patty Belcher – Mt. Roger Community Services, Melissa Clair – Baud and Bill Weaver.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Wolfe called the meeting to order.

**DETERMIINATION OF A QUORUM:** As the meeting was called to order with 6 voting members present, the Commission has a quorum.

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Ramsey and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, minutes of the meeting September 12, 2022 were approved as written. Messrs Wolfe, Austin, Freeman, Ramsey, Reedy and Barker voted affirmatively.

**REVISION/RECODIFICATION:** Members of Mount Rogers Community Service Board spoke in regards to their request for rezoning for a special use permit for 528 E. Main Street. They would like to make it a recovery house. Alice Freeman stated that 532 E. Main Street – 534 E. Main Street are zoned R-1. Bob Ramsey stated they would have to expand the current parking area due to the parking being shared with a neighboring house. Chairman Wolfe also expressed concern for traffic issues on E. Main Street. Mr. Rush suggested that it go before the Town Council on October 21, 2022 and let council decide if there needs to be a public hearing. Chairman Wolfe would like more clarification on zones and what they represent. The Town now has a searchable data base on the Town of Marion website that tells you where the different zones are. Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, this matter will be referred to Town Council.

**BAUD:** The Economic Development Authority closed on a fourth property on October 11, 2022 and has possibly secured a second grant.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Bill Rush distributed paper copies of the draft Comprehensive Plan to the Commissioners. Mr. Rush asked that the Commissioners edit the plan. The suggestion was made by Mr. Rush to have Stephanie Porter-Nichols with the Smyth County News proof read the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan. According to Mr. Rush a court decision on gaming, and if it will be legal or not, will be made in November 2022. A decision needs to be made on the definition of what skilled games is and the quantity that will be allowed at each location. Mr. Reedy expressed concern over businesses with a 911 address and a separate mailing address being allowed to have more games due to the two addresses.

Upon motion of Ben Reedy, seconded by Alice Freeman and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary