

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on August 13, 2018 at 5:15 pm.

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

INVOCATION: Mr. Hicks rendered the invocation.

VISITORS: None

PRESENT: Chairman-Cameron Wolfe, Bob Ramsey, Jim Barker, Ben Reedy (arriving late), Trey White and Kimberly Austin Planning Commission Members; Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Bill Rush, Assistant Town Manager/ Town Engineer Cecil Hicks, Police Chief John Clair, Town Clerk Cindy Stanley and Town Attorney Mark Fenyk.

ABSENT: Alice Freeman.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: The meeting was called to order, and with 5 voting members present, the Commission has a quorum.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting May 14, 2018 were approved as written. Messrs Wolfe, Barker, Ramsey, White and Austin voted affirmatively.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: No Report.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No Report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: No Report.

CONTINUE REVIEW PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ABANDONED VEHICLES RFP: Mr. Rush noted he had sent an electronic copy of the maintenance code to Planning Commission members. He introduced the new Police Chief, John Clair, and explained that he has extensive history with property maintenance enforcement efforts. (Mr. Reedy arrived). Chief Clair gave a brief history, relative to his property maintenance experience. The Virginia Maintenance Code will need to be adopted. These codes can be enforced by Police Officers with building inspector certifications. Chief Clair reported there are 3 Police Officers willing to get this certification.

Mr. Rush reviewed the history with trying to get through the court systems for those that are non-compliant. There has not been a sustained concentrated effort, due to lack of staff available. There are 2 specific areas of the code, blight and structures. Currently we are working on the blighted areas. The town mows and/or cleans up the property and sends an invoice for payment. Once the invoice has been billed several times and becomes delinquent the town can place a lien on the property. Mr. Fenyk will research at what point we can force the sale of the property. It was addressed that some community service agencies might be available to help with the cleanups.

Mr. Rush gave an update on inoperable vehicles. Letters have been sent to approximately 50 owners. Citizens have contacted Mr. Rush about allowing them extra time to get the vehicles moved. Marion Frame and Towing has been awarded the RFP to tow the vehicles that are non-compliant.

Upon motion of Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Reedy and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Chairman

Secretary