

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on May 8, 2017 at 5:15pm.

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

INVOCATION: Cecil Hicks.

VISITORS: Brian Reed, Mount Rogers Planning District Commission.

PRESENT: Chairman Cameron Wolfe, Vice-Chairman Bob Ramsey, Dan Surface, Jim Barker, Trey White and Alice Freeman (arriving late) Planning Commission Members, Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Bill Rush, Assistant Town Manager/Engineer Cecil Hicks, Deputy Clerk Anita Catron and Town Attorney Mark Fenyk.

ABSENT: Ben Reedy Planning Commission Member.

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

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Surface, seconded by Mr. Ramsey and vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, minutes of the meeting held April 10, 2017 were approved as written. Messrs White, Surface, Wolfe, Barker and Ramsey voted affirmatively.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: No Report

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No Report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: No Report.

RIGHT OF WAY WORDING OR REQUIREMENTS FOR ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Chairman Wolfe requested Mr. Rush to begin with this review. Mr. Rush stated this discussion has been on-going, due to the situation on Coyner Avenue with right of way issues. He asked Mr. Hicks to share information with commissioners on this. (Mrs. Freeman arrived). Mr. Hicks reviewed the situation and stated the owner now has a right of way thru his own property to the lots. Members were given a new plat of this property showing the right of way. Discussion ensued regarding wording in the Zoning Ordinance. After discussion, Mr. Rush informed members he would like something in writing to enforce that lot size frontage meet all requirements, right of ways must come onto a state/town maintained road and all right of ways must be deeded and on file at the court house. Chairman Wolfe asked members to give their thoughts on this right of way situation. Members agree they do not like the situation, but can see both sides of the issue this has caused. Mr. Rush requested members help with a possible solution in wording for guidelines.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DISCUSSION: Chairman Wolfe stated the next item for discussion was review of the Comprehensive Plan and asked Mr. Brian Reed with Mount Rogers PDC to continue with review of the Comprehensive Plan updates. Mr. Reed reviewed changes made to the introduction of the plan, and noted space left for commissioners' thoughts. He explained why they cannot wait for Census updates, and noted they will estimate where it makes sense. Several changes already being made are to incorporate the new town logo and add the new maps. There will need to be updates added for the water/sewer project, enhancement of the Emory & Henry College and to include areas at least one (1) mile or more outside the town limits seeing that town services extend outside the town limits. Mr. Reed suggests the Planning Commission recommend for Town Council to amend the Comprehensive Plan every year, so updates may continually be made. Mrs. Freeman and Mr. Barker had chosen sections that were of interest to them for review, and both have notes that Mr. Rush suggested they share with Mr. Reed before the next meeting if possible. Discussion ensued. (Mr. Rush left the meeting). Mr. Reed would like to talk with commissioners and staff who have changes and suggestions they would like to see added in this update.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS: The next Planning Commission meeting will be June 12, 2017 at 5:15pm.

Upon motion of Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mrs. Freeman and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary