

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on September 11, 2017 at 5:15pm.

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

INVOCATION: Cecil Hicks rendered the invocation.

VISITORS: Brian Reed, Mount Rogers Planning District Commission.

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

ABSENT: Ben Reedy and Trey White Planning Commission Members.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: As the meeting was called to order, with 4 voting members present, the Commission has a quorum.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Surface and a vote of 4 AYES and 0 NOES, minutes of the meeting held June 12, 2017, were approved as written. Messrs 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.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DISCUSSION: Chairman Wolfe informed members the meeting was for continued review of the Comprehensive Plan updates and asked Mr. Hicks and Mr. Reed with Mount Rogers Planning District Commission to continue with the review. Mr. Reed provided members with a Transportation Improvements Map and informed them the Highway Projects in the Comprehensive Plan will need to be approved by VDOT in order to become a funded project. The map indicates future improvements to areas in town. Mr. Hicks shared information with members of possible changes in traffic patterns to allow for better traffic flow in certain areas, adding a sidewalk from Main Street to the Emory & Henry Campus on Park Blvd, upgrading the area on Route 16 at the Wal-Mart shopping center entrance for better traffic flow and continuing work on the Gateway project.

Mr. Reed stated he has met with town department heads for in-put on changes to the Comprehensive Plan. He also explained why the Downtown area must be broken-out from Economic Development and be placed in another section of the Comprehensive Plan. He requested members who have not, submit their suggested changes for the section they chose to review. He has included the new ordinance that was added for property clean-up, and will meet with Mr. Rush and Mr. Hicks for more updates that need to be included in the new Comprehensive Plan.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS: With no further discussion of the Comprehensive Plan, members were informed the Emory & Henry College has added another course to the curriculum. Discussion ensued regarding the extent of housing needs for students and staff as more students are being accepted. With no other items for discussion, Chairman Wolfe stated the next meeting will be scheduled for October 9, 2017 at 5:15 pm in Town Council Chambers.

Upon motion, duly seconded, and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary