

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on June 10, 2019 at 5:15 pm.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Cameron Wolfe, Vice-Chairperson Kimberly Austin, Jim Barker, Bob Ramsey, Ben Reedy, Trey White and Alice Freeman(arriving late) Planning Commission Members; Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Bill Rush, Deputy Town Clerk Anita Catron, Town Attorney Mark Fenyk, Police Chief John Clair and Police Sergeant Rick Billings.

**ABSENT:** None

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

**INVOCATION:** Bob Ramsey

**VISITORS:** David Wigand, Cassie Wigand, Jennifer Bralley, Carolyn Haulsey and Mike Snavelly.

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

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mr. Reedy, seconded by Mr. White and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting May 13, 2019 were approved as written. Messrs Wolfe, Barker, Austin, Ramsey, Reedy and White voted affirmatively.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY:** No Report.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:** No Report.

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** No Report.

Chairman Wolfe turned the meeting to Mr. Rush for discussion and review of the listed agenda items.

**PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD):** Mr. Rush stated there is no other information to share with commissioners at this time, but would like for them to continue to study this item and get a frame-work in mind to build on. Mr. Wolfe stated he had questions he would like to discuss concerning the new development but would only start with a few now. 1) Will town building officials will be addressing items like storm water drainage, buffers etc. 2) Is the intent of the PUD owners to sale parcels or will they continue to own all the land and 3) Will the new PUD ordinance be included in the Town Zoning Ordinance. He has other questions but would save those for a later time. Mr. Rush stated yes the new development would become a part of the Zoning Ordinance and the other questions would be determined. Whatever is decided, all would still need the approval of town council. He asked Mr. Wolfe to get the other questions to him and he would share them by e-mail with the other members.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** (Mrs. Freeman arrived). Mr. Rush turned the floor to Chief Clair for this discussion. Chief Clair stated he first wanted to share with commissioners that Sergeant Rick Billings now has his certifications and is the Property Maintenance Official/Inspector for Town of Marion. Sergeant Billings is now full-time in this position, and will begin reviewing the town ordinances with Mr. Rush and prepare to begin reviewing with commissioners. He has a lot of property maintenance issues to address that was handed down from town council, and will begin to address building inspection issues after these.

**DISCUSSION ON ANIMALS-FERAL CATS:** Mr. Rush shared with commissioners that Robert Copeland had addressed town council with feral cat issues. Council referred this item to the Ordinance Committee for review. Mr. Barker is a member of that committee, and has requested that Planning Commissioners review and become familiar with these issues to help work thru what is becoming a big concern in town. He asked Chief Clair and Sergeant Billings to continue with discussion on this. Chief Clair stated there are different categories for cats, and there are legal aspects in dealing with each category. Sergeant Billings shared information he obtained from a discussion with an animal trapper, concerning the trapping of the animals, and possible solution. No laws exist for the best way to handle the situation. He also reviewed the options citizens may try on their own to resolve personal issues with feral cats.

Jennifer Bralley-222 Wolfe Avenue Humane Society representative, discussed the possibility of TNR (trap, neuter, return), stating this would be more beneficial and also shared the positive side of TNR. She discussed the cost, and the areas in town where the organization is aware of cat colonies. The Humane Society has requested a financial allocation of \$3,500 from the town to allow for a matching grant.

Kady McMoran-711 Henry Street-also with the Humane Society spoke in support of TNR and shared some of her experiences.

David Wigand is not a town resident but spoke on behalf of his sister Cassie Wigand a town resident in support of TNR.

After discussion and upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Barker a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Marion Planning Commission recommends Town Council approve the requested allocation of \$3,500 for a matching grant with the stipulation the money be used to deal with the feral cat issues in town.

**QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

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Chairman

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Secretary