

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on January 30, 2023 at 5:15 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Kimberly Austin, Bob Ramsey, Jim Barker, Ben Reedy (arrived late), Trey White and Alice Freeman Planning Commissions Members; Bill Weaver Council Member; Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Bill Rush, Assistant Town Manager Billy Hamm, Police Chief John Clair, Director of Engineering/IT/Zoning Administrator Todd Long, Town Attorney Mark Fenyk and Town Clerk Cindy Stanley.

ABSENT: Chairman Cameron Wolfe.

VISITORS: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairperson Austin called the meeting to order.

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

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Ramsey and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, minutes of the meeting on November 14, 2022 were approved as written. Messrs Austin, Freeman, Ramsey, White and Barker voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None. Mr. Reedy arrived.

OLD BUSINESS; ZONING DEPARTMENT: Mr. Rush reviewed the expansion of the EDA and BAUD programs. He reported Todd Long will be assuming the duties of the Zoning and Planning departments.

BAUD PROJECT MEDA EFFORTS: Mr. Rush noted the Marion EDA now owns approximately 48 properties. There will be an EDA meeting Wednesday at noon at the Police Department. Mr. Rush reviewed the status of the properties. The EDA has received a \$1,000,000 grant and he will advocate for the grant to be administered by Mount Rogers PDC. Mr. Fenyk arrived.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE EFFORTS: Mr. Long noted there were approximately 25 letters mailed out today regarding property maintenance. He also reported the IT Assistant Flave Davis is doing a good job on property maintenance and is getting certified on VA Property Maintenance Code. Mr. Rush reported there are approximately 250 properties on our radar in some form.

REVISION AND RECODIFICATION OF ZONING LAWS: Mrs. Freeman recommends more categories in the Medical Arts section of the Zoning Ordinance. There will likely be a searchable database for the matrix. Mr. Rush reviewed density construction, how to replace what is being removed.

CAMPING ON PUBLIC LANDS: Mr. Barker reviewed homelessness and noted the property owner is in control of who is allowed on their property. The town would have jurisdiction of public property located in town.

NEW BUSINESS; APPALACHIAN CENTER OF HOPE: The Appalachian Center of Hope has requested a variance on set-backs for a portion of tax parcel 211-130-1. The plat meets the town subdivision code and is zoned Medical Arts. This would require a Public Hearing and notification of adjoining property owners. A Joint Public Hearing with Town Council will be set for March 6, 2023.

Upon motion of Mr. Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Reedy and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary