

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on February 12, 2018 at 5:15pm.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Mr. Hicks rendered the invocation.

VISITORS: None

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

ABSENT: Chairman Cameron Wolfe, Ben Reedy and Dan Surface Planning Commission Members.

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

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 4 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting November 13, 2017 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Ramsey, Freeman and White voted affirmatively.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: No Report.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No Report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: No Report.

PET WASTE CONCERNS: Vice-Chairman Ramsey asked Mr. Rush to proceed with this discussion. Mr. Rush informed members of a Town Council referral for Planning Commission to review this due to concerns in the downtown area. He provided members with information from other localities regarding ordinances dealing with this. He requested member suggestions for implementing ways that would allow for dealing with this issue. If an ordinance were in place to enforce this, it would be town wide and include all animals. He would prefer to first have a discussion with the offending citizens regarding pet clean-up and being a responsible pet owner but would need the correct wording in place to allow for this before other actions would be taken. Discussion ensued regarding how wide spread the problem with animal waste is at this time, how other areas with animals in towns deal with this and the possibility of adding receptacles with clean-up bags available for public use. Mr. Rush asked members to continue to review this for further discussion at a later date.

Mr. Rush stated another item he would again like to bring to Planning Commission for review is dealing with property maintenance. This item was discussed previously, and should now be reviewed in more detail. He informed members Todd Long is doing all he can with clean-up enforcement, but feels the town may now need to consider hiring a Town Building Inspector to truly enforce this. The inspector would be responsible for inspection of old abandoned properties in need of clean-up, and also for new building inspections. Discussion ensued regarding the job duties this would include. Mr. Rush informed members they would continue to receive information from him as he researches other localities regarding this issue and he would like continued review and suggestions in creating a plan to present to council for the 2019-2020 budget for this position. Discussion will continue at the next Planning Commission meeting.

With no other comments or questions, Mr. Rush reminded members that election of officers will be held at the April 2018 meeting.

Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 4 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary