

CITY OF IONIA
Planning Commission
July 8, 2015
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the City of Ionia Planning Commission for July 8, 2015 was called to order by Chairperson Chris Young at 4:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call revealed Commissioners Dave Cook, Mark Jennings, Gordon Kelley, Tim Lee, Evonne Ulmer, and Chris Young present. Commissioner Boomer Hoppough was excused.

City Manager Jason Eppler and Planning Consultant Tim Johnson were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Young reviewed the agenda with the Commission. After review, it was moved by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Jennings to approve the agenda for the July 8, 2015 meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the June 10, 2015 Regular Meeting. After review it was moved by Commissioner Ulmer, seconded by Commissioner Cook to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2015 Commission meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Reuse of Current Sparrow Ionia Hospital Facility – Results of Public Workshop: Mr. Johnson reviewed with the Commission the results of the June 16, 2015 neighborhood workshop regarding the re-use of the former Sparrow Ionia Hospital property on Lafayette and Washington Streets. Based on input received from those attending, he shared the following conclusions with the Commission:

1. The preferred option was Concept # 3; Single family lots between East Washington and Lafayette and attached townhouses on the south side of East Washington. Condo style preferred.
2. Concepts #1 and #3 both proposed single family lots between East Washington and Lafayette Streets. Written comments (probably from the same person) favored

increasing the minimum lot size and the square footage of the dwelling unit

3. A number of comments were posted that low income housing was not desired.

4. The view from the current parking lot on the south side of east Washington was valued and should be preserved. Limit building heights in this area.

5. No desire to see apartments in the re-development area.

6. All five concept plans proposed the extension of Pearl Street between Lafayette and East Washington but no comments were posted about this.

In terms of the next steps, Mr. Johnson recommended that the Commission consider amending the Master Plan to reflect a sub-area plan for this area of Lafayette and Washington Streets. Once the Master Plan is amended, the Commission can then decide if the property should be rezoned from residential to a newly written residential district specific for this property or a planned unit development district should be created for this area.

Request from Resident – Consideration of City Code Amendment – Chickens: The City Manager reported that at its July 7, 2015 meeting, Council discussed the matter of permitting chickens in the City subject to conditions that would be incorporated into the animals ordinance by amendments.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

The City Manager reported that at its July 7, 2015 meeting, Council approved the updated plans for the Resurrection Life Church project, as recommended by the Commission

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Jennings, seconded by Commissioner Cook to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 PM. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Eppler
City Manager
Recording Secretary for Dave Cook, Secretary