CITY OF IONIA
Planning Commission
February 8, 2012
Regular Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER
The Regular Meeting of the City of Ionia Planning Commission for February 8, 2012 was called to order by Secretary Boomer Hoppough at 4:02 PM.

ROLL CALL
Roll Call revealed Commissioners Dave Cook, Boomer Hoppough, Gordon Kelley and Evonne Ulmer present.

City Manager Jason Eppler, Planning Consultant Tim Johnson, Landscape Architect Jim Morgan and Public Safety Officer Doug DeVries were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Secretary Hoppough reviewed the agenda with the Commission. After review, it was moved by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Ulmer to approve the agenda for the February 8, 2012 meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The Commission reviewed the minutes of the January 11, 2012 Regular Meeting. After review it was moved by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Ulmer to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2012 Commission meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
None.

OLD BUSINESS
Master Plan Update: Planning Consultant Tim Johnson and Landscape Architect Jim Morgan reviewing with the Commission a conceptual plan and associated development principles for the Steele Street Corridor. Mr. Morgan stated that the conceptual plan should be considered a "2025 Plan" for future development along the corridor. Mr. Morgan reviewed key components of the conceptual plan including the re-use of the silos for residential purposes, the construction of recreational fields east of the Steele Street Plaza, the re-use of both the Matcor and Caswell RV Properties for residential and commercial purposes. He also discussed the option of building a water feature at the site of the current retention pond south of Caswell RV. Mr. Johnson reviewed the development principals proposed for the Steele Street Corridor which will be included as "guiding principles" in the Master Plan to steer development along the corridor in the future. Commissioners reviewed the plan with both consultants and offered suggestions for revisions.
These suggestions included maintaining the greenbelt along Dexter Street, especially in the area contiguous to the Caswell RV property; clarifying the type of residential desired along the corridor; and, implementing the suggestion for public restroom facilities in the downtown area.

Copies of the proposed plan were distributed to each Commissioner so that they could continue their review and offer feedback.

NEW BUSINESS

2011 Planning Commission Annual Report: A draft annual report outlining the Commission’s activities during 2011 was distributed for review. After review it was moved by Commissioner Ulmer, seconded by Commissioner Cook to approve the report as proposed. MOTION CARRIED.

The City Manager reported that Chairperson Jennings will be presenting the report to the City Council at their March meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS None.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Eppler
City Manager/Recording Secretary
for
Boomer Hoppough, Secretary