



PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Notes of January 18, 2017

Members present: Lamont King, Charles Mathews, Joel Metlen, Carrie Pellett, Bill Relyea and Gary Walvatne
Members absent: Jim Farrell
Staff present: John Williams, Community Development Director and Megan Thornton, Assistant City Attorney

(00:03:15)

WORK SESSION - CALL TO ORDER

Community Development Director, John Williams opened the meeting.

(00:03:30)

INTRODUCE JOHN WILLIAMS, NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

John Williams introduced himself to the commission.

(00:03:50)

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Ms. Thornton clarified that the commission would be electing all officers for the coming year, not just the Vice Chair.

Commissioner Charles Mathews **moved** to elect Vice Chair Gary Walvatne as Chair.
Commissioner Lamont King **seconded** the motion.

Ayes: Commissioner Joel Metlen, Commissioner Charles Mathews, Commissioner Lamont King, Commissioner Carrie Pellett, Commissioner Bill Relyea and Vice Chair Walvatne

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion passed 6-0-0

Commissioner Joel Metlen **moved** to elect Commissioner Charles Mathews as Vice Chair.
Commissioner Carrie Pellett **seconded** the motion.

Ayes: Commissioner Joel Metlen, Commissioner Charles Mathews, Commissioner Lamont King, Commissioner Carrie Pellett, Commissioner Bill Relyea and Chair Walvatne

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion passed 6-0-0

(00:05:54)

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO LAND USE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

(00:06:39)

DISCUSSION: TRAINING NEEDS, DEVELOPMENT AND LEGISLATIVE EXPECTATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

Ms. Thornton explained that a training for the commissioners would be scheduled prior to a meeting or on another date that would work for everyone to discuss background information on land use cases that might come before the commission as well as legal issues that might be encountered. Also on January 30, a training session for all boards and commissions will be held to cover public meetings, public records, ex parte contact, etc. If anyone has specific concerns, they can contact Ms. Thornton so she can address their concerns during the trainings.

Councilor Martin informed the commission that the CCI wants to focus on the general land use process this year and maybe a couple more specific things they would like to do more quickly.

(00:18:50)

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Commissioner Mathews asked for clarification on asking questions of staff in the time between when a packet is received and the scheduled hearing. Ms. Thornton verified it is better to get the questions to the planner and to share those answers. This provides answers to questions that might otherwise come up during a hearing and can sometimes avoid the need for a continuance. Mr. Williams reiterated that this is not considered ex parte contact.

In light of the upcoming council goal setting retreat, Councilor Martin asked the commissioners for suggestions to take to the retreat. Chair Walvatne voiced his frustration over changes made to the code eliminating the planning commission's consideration of the geo-tech report and natural hazards assessment for residential projects.

(00:46:54)

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM STAFF

Ms. Thornton added an additional training piece will be on expedited land divisions. She also advised Sunset land use appeal has the possibility of coming back to the Planning Commission so to be conscious of ex parte contact. The Upper Midhill decision is being brought back for reconsideration. This also has the possibility of coming back to the Planning Commission so again, be mindful of ex parte contact. Commissioner Relyea requested information on SB 1573 (annexation land use process).

(00:53:45)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Walvatne adjourned the meeting.