



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Cheney, Malone, Palmer, Novak, Robertson, Whitt

ABSENT: Wolfson

OTHERS PRESENT: Planning Consultant *, Recording Secretary Rodgers, Finance Director Coogan

**Laura Hawe substituting for John Jackson*

PC 05-01-15 EXCUSE COMMISSIONER WOLFSON FROM THIS MEETING

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Malone, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To excuse Commissioner Wolfson from this meeting.

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

PC 05-02-15 APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 14, 2015 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Malone, seconded by Robertson, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the April 14, 2015 Planning Commission Minutes

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing

Open Public Hearing 7:32 p.m.

1. Sign Ordinance Amendment LED

Commissioner Whitt said the proposed change to the sign ordinance is a minor change but significant. He explained the City had installed a new LED sign that because the city's rules were different people complained. He explained the City proposed amendments to the sign ordinance to allow the LED signs to operate in the same manner as the City's sign and those proposed amendments require public hearing. He said the proposed amendment is to allow LED

signs to change more frequently than once every eight (8) hours. He explained that the City Council had amended the proposal twice before sending it for the public hearing.

Commissioner Palmer said the City will want to be proactive with the sign ordinance or the City is going to start seeing signs that project up and the signs will need to get under control. He said there is an American Sign group that has examples of some ordinances and regulations for LED signs.

Commissioner Whitt explained the ordinance will be continually reviewed. He explained this a starting point since some businesses have already erected signs.

Close Public Hearing 7:42 p.m.

Discussion:

**PC 05-03-15 APPROVAL TO PASS THE AMENDMENT SUBJECT TO
EVOLVING WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY AND REGULATIONS**

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Robertson, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To pass the amendment subject to evolving with new technology and regulations.

Public Hearing

Open Public Hearing 7:44 p.m.

2. Wireless Communication Ordinance Amendment

Commissioner Malone explained the City Attorney's memo explains the state and federal changes and it sounds like the federal changes would take effect unless the City put this additional text into the City Zoning Ordinance to regain some of the control. He explained a timely review of the new local wireless communication regulations or municipal will not have any input of a facility and it will be approved by operation of law. He explained the City is trying to build in these changes with federal and state into the City ordinance.

Commissioner Whitt explained the City is attempting to preserve some local authority and if the City doesn't do that then the City could lose that opportunity. He further explained it has to have a public hearing. He explained the Attorney is attempting to protect the City's interest.

Close Public Hearing 7:49 p.m.

Discussion:

Commissioner Palmer explained what is important, is if the company abandons it then the City has some options to take the old technology instead of letting it go. He explained there are a lot more changes and the company goes up in frequency and the new thing is co-locating on top of the buildings.

PC 05-04-15**APPROVAL TO PASS THE AMENDMENT TO THE WIRELESS
COMMUNICATION ORDINANCE**

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Malone, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To pass the amendment to the Wireless Communication Ordinance

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

1. Code Enforcement Report

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Palmer said if someone could go check out DM Motors and the parking situation over there because it may be an issue if the City can't get the fire trucks in. He said the lot is looking pretty full lately.

Commissioner Robertson said the Planning Commission does have several cases coming up: Shuman for a parking lot and Maher for a zero foot setback.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Whitt said that Council order sidewalks on Pontiac Trail leading towards Decker. He said the City acquired the property and construction will begin soon.

Commissioner Novak asked if there are rules for the grass and weed cutting in front of businesses.

Chairman Cheney said that the Code Enforcer, Jeff Rondeau, goes around to the businesses once the grass hits a certain height and orders the lawn to be cut.

Commissioner Malone said Blue Bliss took down their sign and is changing the name to Turtles Ice Cream Shop and they are doing interior work. He said it looked like Hans Bistro is doing some work as well: working on some drainage issues and they put up new ceiling and put in an iron fence outside.

PC 05-05-15**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Malone, seconded by Robertson, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.



Chelsea Rodgers
Recording Secretary



Reuben Cheney
Chairperson