

MINUTES

FRANKLIN CITY PLAN COMMISSION

September 17, 2013

Members Present:

Jim Martin	President
Kevin McElyea	Vice-President
Suzanne Findley	Secretary
Joe Abban	Member
Pam Ault	Member
Steve Davis	Member
Diane Gragg	Member
Georganna Haltom	Member
Chris Phillips	Member
Debbie Swinehamer	Member

Members Absent:

Tim Holmes	Member
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Others Present:

Travis Underhill	City Engineer
Joanna Myers	Senior Planner
Lynn Gray	Legal Counsel
Jaime Shilts	Recording Secretary

Call to Order:

Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Kevin McElyea made a motion to approve the August 8, 2013 minutes as presented. Suzanne Findley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pam Ault made a motion to approve the August 20, 2013 minutes as presented. Georganna Haltom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Swearing In:

En masse, Ms. Gray swore in all individuals in the audience who were going to be presenting testimony.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Joanna Myers stated there were 3 items on the agenda at the last Technical Review Committee meeting. She stated the first was The Church of the Bible, located at 211 Hamilton Avenue. They are proposing to add on to their facility with a new parking lot to the west. She stated Marshmallow Monkey is proposing to add a parking lot at 460 E. Jefferson Street, which is to the east of their business. She stated the last item was for the Creekside Annexation 1, which is being heard this evening.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

PC 2013-24 (A): Creekside Annexation 1:

Roger Young, representing Franklin Community School Corporation, stated that neither Creekside Elementary nor Custer Baker Middle School are within the Franklin City boundaries. He stated there are benefits to the schools being annexed. They would be eligible for lower insurance premiums and would be eligible to receive grants and funding if they are located in the city limits. He stated for a property to be annexed, it must be adjacent to or touching land of the municipality it wishes to join. There is a small piece of land that must be annexed first. He stated that if it is annexed, then more of school property will be brought before the Board for annexation. There will be potentially up to four separate petitions before the Board. He stated the utilities will not change and there should not be any additional impact on any municipal service.

Ms. Gray stated that the City has not historically done hostile annexations. The landowner must voluntarily request to be annexed. Ms. Myers stated that one of the additional benefits to the City is that the boundary would be extended to the west, which could potentially allow the city to grow to the west .

Staff recommends the Plan Commission forward a favorable recommendation to City Council.

Action taken on PC 2013-24 (A): Creekside Annexation 1:

Kevin McElyea made a motion to forward a favorable recommendation to the City Council. Joe Abban seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Comprehensive Plan:

Cory Daly, HWC Engineering, described the planning process in developing the comprehensive plan. He described the different topics the plan covers including development principles. He discussed key chapters: Land Uses, Economic Development, Housing, Natural Resources & Recreation, Transportation, and Infrastructure and Utilities and gave a brief overview of each.

Mr. Daly stated the next step is for the Plan Commission to provide a recommendation of adoption to the City Council. After it is forward to City Council, they may adopt the plan as submitted, adopt the plan with revisions or they may reject the plan.

Mr. Daly stated all comments and revisions are being provided into an errata sheet that will be incorporated into the final draft.

Mr. Martin opened the floor for public comments.

Dustin Huddleston stated he was on the Steering Committee. He stated the meetings went well and the Committee really looked at a lot of the City issues.

Mr. Martin stated the floor was closed for public comments.

Ms. Myers stated staff is requesting that the Board taken action on the plan tonight.

Debra Swinehamer questioned why the sidewalk width was changed to 6 feet. Mr. Daly stated it addresses walkability and connectivity. Ms. Swinehamer questioned if it applies to new and old lots. Ms. Gray stated it would address future land plans and does not apply to current development standards as those are outlined in the Subdivision Control Ordinance.

Steve Davis stated that he felt there should be something in the plan addressing the issue of large trucks going through downtown. Ms. Myers stated it is addressed in Goal 5 of improving the local east-west travel corridor.

Action taken on Comprehensive Plan:

Kevin McElyea made a motion to forward a favorable recommendation to City Council. Georganna Haltom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Other Business:

None.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of October, 2013.

Jim Martin
President

Suzanne Findley
Secretary