
CALL TO ORDER Planning Chairman, Larry McCourtie, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. June 17, 2013.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Chairman Larry McCourtie, Terry Thompson, Rex Robbins

Absent: Clair Lackie

Staff: City Planner, Darryl Piercy and Planning Secretary, Trisha Tolley

Quorum Established.

APPROVAL OF MAY 20, 2012 MEETING

Minutes of May 20, 2013 are approved without discussion. M/S Thompson/Robbins

CONTINUED REVIEW OF THE ZONING CODES

City Planner Darryl Piercy gave the committee two different examples of how zoning codes approach the different uses. He used a current Commercial 2 zone that the City of Othello uses today and a Matrix form that came from the City of Mattawa, many cities are using this format today. The goal to achieve is to make the zoning code user friendly, so citizens can read the zoning code and understand it. Mr. Piercy wanted the Planning Commission to review the examples they were given before he brought forward the change in the format to let them know that the Matrix is what is being used by other cities, this is not the way it has been done in Othello for the last 25 years. The Matrix system helps clarify inconsistencies and unmentioned uses in certain sections of the code. The industrial areas will have their own Matrix because their uses are so different then other areas. Mr. Piercy wanted to know from the planning commission if they are comfortable with the Matrix approach, are these categories conclusive or are there categories missing. Also, how do the categories fit in to the actual zones. In the next meeting July 15th, Darryl would like to bring back the completed Matrix and go through it line by line to make sure the uses and zoning that have been proposed are appropriate. Darryl will provide this two weeks before the next meeting. This will give the Planning Committee a chance to look at it and give some thought of what uses should be allowed where and why or why not. Most should be straight forward, but there will be a few in question. Mr. McCourtie commented that the school on 14th avenue has caused the buses to drive through the residential areas and when the parents come to pick up their child, it really gets congested and if there were ever an emergency situation it would cause a lot of delay in the process. Mr. Piercy indicated that when schools were placed in residential areas, there was thought that in a community like this, kids would walk or ride their bicycles to school. Parents now do not let their children walk to school like it was done in the past. Mr. Piercy indicated that when 14th street is redone to the design that is waiting for construction, this will help with the traffic patterns, especially Cemetery road and 14th and Scootney and 14th, this will improve the traffic flow.

City Planner, Darryl Piercy said he would have almost a fully developed zoning code in the Matrix format that will have a lot of the text from the old code format. He will relocate the listings from the old code format and list them into the charts to see how it looks. He will also have the full definitions for the uses that are proposed and a better picture of how those uses fit in the code. This should make it easier for the first time user. At the next meeting the Planning Commission will review the changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business at hand Chairman Larry McCourtie asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting, the next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2013. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm. M/S. Thompson/Robbins

By: _____ Date: _____
Trisha Tolley, Planning Secretary

NOTE: These are abbreviated minutes that contain all motions and business conducted. These meetings are taped; a complete record of the minutes may be obtained by contacting the Planning Commission Office or a verbatim copy of these minutes can be ordered at the requestor's expense.