

Planning Commission

April 18, 2016

Trisha Tolley

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Terry Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:03 April 18, 2016.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Chairperson Terry Thompson, Chris Dorow, Deena Vietzke, Brian Gentry and Roger Ensz

Staff: City Community Development Director Travis Goddard, City Administrator Wade Farris, City Attorney Kelly Konkright, Council Member John Lallas and Planning Secretary, Trisha Tolley

Quorum Established.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 29, 2016 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was voted to accept the minutes from February 29, 2016. M/S Dorow/Ensz

OSCAR'S TOWING

Oscar Garza, owner of Oscar's Towing at 645 S Broadway was at the Public Meeting to request that his license be changed to say "impound". Also it was discovered that his long time business was on a lot zoned C-2, which does not allow impound lots. However it does indicate the planning commission has the authority to consider other uses with similar impacts. The Planning Commission made a motion that the use is consistent with the list for a C-2 zoning. M/S Dorow/Vietzke

PUBLIC HEARING ON MARIJUANA MORATORIUM

Chairperson Terry Thompson opened the meeting to the public at 6:12 pm. Citizen Ken Johnson did not believe that the City of Othello should give into the sale of marijuana and wanted the city to continue the moratorium or just band the sale of cannabis all together. John Lallas, City Council Member gave his opinion on the sale of marijuana in the city limits and thought the selling of marijuana should stay in the county and not be let in the city limits.

Travis Goddard presented a brief presentation on I-502 2011 Initiative that was approved in November 2012. It passed on a statewide basis of 56% yes and 44% no with an 81% voter turnout. Adams county was greater than 60% no vote. Aspects for I-502 are that is legal to use for those 21years and older, but sales must be located 1000 ft. from certain types of uses.

Mr. Goddard showed a map of where the growers and processors were located in the State. He then showed a map of where the sales were located, there were 317 licenses issued, but only 229 are operated, partly because licenses have been issued but jurisdictions still have moratoriums. Adams County has allotments of 3 retail licenses, there are 3 pending applications for the City of Othello, and a processor and production license that is being considered on Main Street, near

the tracts by city limits. Mr. Goddard went over the pros and cons and general information that he came across as he did research on the web about marijuana.

City Attorney Kelly Konkright gave the Planning Commission some different options they could do, whatever the commission decided, whether it be to recommend putting a band on retail sales, production or processing of marijuana, Mr. Konkright has recommendations where in the code they would do that, and if they wanted to recommend allowing it, he would let them know the restrictions they need to be aware of.

There was much discussion about the ins and outs of having retail sales allowed in the city limits. Council member Roger Ensz felt that it needs to be regulated to eventually push out the black market. Mr. Dorow felt that beyond the health and safety issues, the message that the city will be giving to the youth of Othello or the impact it could have on someone's business by saying ok was not what he wanted to happen. Mr. Dorow had a few more questions for Mr. Konkright, which were answered accordingly.

Mr. Ensz asked if the county was to let the sales of marijuana in and then in three years down the road the city wants to annex that property in, what happens. Community Development Director Travis Goddard explained that annexing is a request and the city has an option to deny it. If a marijuana shop was already in place, it would be grandfathered in so that other businesses that want to come in that are not allowed to be within the 1000 ft. radius, they would not be allowed to build.

Council member Chris Dorow made the motion that we change OMC 17.56.170 to include the language to; prohibiting all marijuana land uses including retail sales, processing and production. Chairman Terry Thompson, Chris Dorow and Brian Gentry agreed. Roger Ensz and Deena Vietzke opposed. M/S Dorow/Gentry. The public testimony was closed at 7:34pm.

Chris Dorow asked what our next topic would be at the next meeting and if we could see how those issues relate to the comprehensive plans so the commission could make some recommendations to bring into place for the future. Terry Thompson, Roger Ensz and Brian Gentry agreed.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business at hand a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. M/S Dorow/Ensz.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2016.

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.