

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PLANNING COMMISSION
JUNE 5, 2018
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Williamston City Hall Council Chambers by Chairman Jeffrey Roland and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Jeffrey Roland, Vice Chair Jeff Markstrom, Commissioners Matthew McHale, Brandon Gilroy, John Bisard, Peter Schall. Absent: None.

Also present: City Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke, Community Planner Mario Ortega, Community Planner Erin Schlutow, City Attorney Timothy Perrone, City Attorney Courtney Gabbara, citizens Kristin McFetters, Barb and Steve Harkness, Tammy Gilroy, Kent Hall, and other members of the public.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Gilroy**, second by **Bisard**, to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Audience Participation:

Kent Hall said the Vietnam Traveling Wall will be in Williamston from June 21-24. This is free of charge for all to see.

Kent Hall also gave an update on the Honor for All River Trail. They received a grant from Home Depot for the trail in Memorial Park. Forty volunteers from Home Depot came and worked on their day off helping build and beautify the trail and park. He is thankful to Home Depot for their support and teamwork.

6. Planning Commission Minutes of May 1, 2018:

Motion by **Bisard**, second by **Gilroy**, to approve the May 1, 2018 regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Action Items

7a. Rescheduling of July Planning Commission Meeting- Suggested Dates 7/12 or 7/18:

Motion by **Markstrom**, second by **Gilroy**, to reschedule the July Planning Commission Meeting to Wednesday, July 18, 2018. Yes: Gilroy, Bisard, Schall, Markstrom, Roland, McHale. No: None. **Motion passed.**

8. Discussion Items

8a. Zoning Ordinance – Recreational Vehicle Storage (Section Proposed Mixed Use District Revisions):

At the May Planning Commission meeting a homeowner requested that the Commission review the zoning regulations pertaining to the storage of recreational vehicles on residential property. Planner Schlutow reviewed the current regulations for storing recreational vehicles on a residential lot. She researched other communities and their recreational vehicle storage in their zoning ordinances.

Kristin McFetters, 733 Hickory Lane, felt the ordinance was arbitrary as it is complaint-driven. Many homes in the City have recreational vehicles parked in their driveways, etc. Their RV is stored at the present time. The back yard is permissible for parking of an RV, but their neighbors do not want it in the back yard.

Steve Harkness, 749 Hickory Lane, said this affects the aesthetic value of the city.

Barbara Harkness, 749 Hickory Lane, said the old RV that was at 733 Hickory Lane was moldy and sat in the front yard. The new RV is big and tall and changes the landscape.

The Commissioners felt the way the ordinance is written is good. It is difficult to police zoning violations and enforce them. Zoning ordinance violations are complaint driven. Many communities do it this way due to expense.

Mr. McFetters stated that Associated Government Services (AGS) was rude, and they were not well-informed regarding the zoning ordinance. Kristin McFetters felt that neighbors should speak to neighbors.

Tammy Gilroy stated the new City Manager, Corey Schmidt, starts on June 11. He has a planning and code enforcement background. Council has a goal-setting workshop in July, so any comments/concerns can be brought up at that time.

8b. Proposed Mixed Use District Revisions:

Community Planner Ortega gave a brief review of his proposed revisions to the City zoning ordinance regarding the creation of a mixed use zoning district. The Planning Commission directed staff to move forward in scheduling a public hearing for the July meeting.

Staff will provide a zoning map to the Commissioners.

10. Staff Reports:

10a. Community Development & Planning:

Planner Schlutow distributed the 2017 Planning Commission Annual Report Draft.

Upcoming projects include:

- Parks and Recreation Master Plan, existing plan is set to expire December 2019
- Redevelopment Ready Community Certification – several City staff have begun the process to become certified

- Proposed Future Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments

This Annual Report should be placed on the July meeting agenda.

11. Audience Participation:

Chairman Roland called for public comments at this time and there were none.

12. Planning Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bisard stated for The Commons site plan, the ball is in their court.

13. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair:

Chairman Roland adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.

Respectfully Submitted: _____
Barbara J. Burke, City Deputy Clerk

Date approved: _____