

CITY OF OSKALOOSA
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2016

A regularly-scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission for the City of Oskaloosa was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2016, by Wyndell Campbell, at 220 South Market Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Wyndell Campbell, Andrew Jensen, R. D. Keep, Sarah Tarbell and Gabriel Wagner. Stephen Tews arrived at 4:35 p.m. COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Pamela Blomgren. CITY STAFF PRESENT: Akhilesh Pal and Marilyn Johannes. OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry Slobe and two other members of the public.

Minutes from the January 11, 2016 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

It was moved by Keep, seconded by Jensen to approve the January 11, 2016 Planning and Zoning Commission minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider the vacation and sale of unused sections of public right-of-way lying between 1216 and 1302 Green Street, between 816 and 902 South 12th Street, and adjacent to 600 6th Avenue East.

Pal explained that a number of property owners had approached the city with requests to acquire unused portions of public right-of-way abutting their properties. Pal said staff verified the properties were not needed for public use, did right-of-way locates and there are no easements required. Pal said the property owners have been maintaining the parcels. Pal said the property owners do not want to purchase the parcels, but the city code states that vacated streets or alleys cannot be disposed of by gift. Therefore it is recommended to sell the parcels for \$1.00 plus any filing and recording costs.

(Tews arrived at 4:35 p.m.)

Jensen said good to get rid of the properties. Keep said his only question was whether or not the property owners were taking care of the areas.

Tews asked about the sale of the property off of 8th and 12th. Pal said both of the property owners have the right to purchase their part and that all of the property owners are willing to accept. Tews thought since the properties could not be given away, the city should charge more.

Tews made a motion the area adjacent to 8th and 12th be sold as one parcel. The motion died for lack of a second.

It was moved by Jensen, seconded by Wagner to approve the vacation and sale of unused sections of public right-of-way lying between 1216 and 1302 Green Street, between 816 and 902 South 12th Street, and adjacent to 600 6th Avenue East.

Campbell asked for public comments. Jerry Slobe said he thinks the area should be sold and that his daughter wants to buy her half of the lot to be square. Campbell said that is what the motion is for. Tarbell said to double check and make sure all willing to purchase.

Jensen asked how the sale of the properties came about. Pal said the city is going to do some sidewalk work on Green Street and that is how they became aware. Pal also said Slobe had contacted the city about purchasing property. Pal said owner at 1216 Green Street did not want ownership of their portion of the area because did not want additional snow removal or mowing.

Campbell called for a roll call vote. The vote was: YES – Campbell, Jensen, Keep, Tarbell and Wagner. No – Tews. Motion carried.

Tews said he would like to see South Market Street three lane like North Market. Pal responded would need to look at width of street and would require IDOT approval.

Campbell asked Pal how to go about making recommendations to City Council. Pal said if the commission wants to make a recommendation to City Council they can do that. Campbell said could make the matter a discussion item. Tews responded no need, just make a recommendation to City Council.

Jensen said make recommendation on three lane ok, but need to make sure it is a priority for the commission. Jensen mentioned several pending issues that are to be considered by the commission including sidewalk requirements and the request from the City Manager regarding review of sign regulations. Jensen asked that sidewalk requirement discussion be put on the next agenda. Tews said he would like to see the map of the sidewalk plan at the next meeting.

Pal gave an update regarding the Central Reformed Church plans regarding a new parking lot. Pal said he found out that churches located in R1 and R2 zoned areas are not required to get site plan approval, that staff will review the plans.

It was moved by Keep, seconded by Jensen to adjourn. Motion carried with all aye votes. The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Minutes by Marilyn Johannes