

MINUTES
AUSTIN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014
5:30 P.M.
AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Kime, Troy Nelson, Lonnie Skalicky, Lynn Spainhower, and Holly Wallace

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rick Bremner, Laura Helle, Dan Hirst, and Jim Mino

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Byram, Craig Hoium and public

The Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Commissioner Spainhower in Commissioner Mino absence. Commissioner Wallace made a motion to approve the April 15, 2014 minutes as written and Commissioner Kime seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Tree Preservation: To consider a request from U.S. National Guard for action pursuant to Austin City Code Section 11.71, Subd.4(B) relating to tree mitigation efforts.

Mr. Hoium indicated the petition was for a variance for tree preservation. The property is located in an "A-1" Agricultural, Recreation Conservation District. Referring to the monitor, Mr. Hoium verified there are height limit with the established clear zone restrictions long the airport runway area located east of the property. The property's replacement tree schedule is unique due to the Federal Government Anti-Terrorist requirements that development standards states they must have at least an 80 foot clear zone around the armory facility. Six trees are planted within the questionable easement of the property for complying with the replacement schedule. Replacement requires 22 trees 2 ½ inch in diameter or 11 trees 4 inch in diameter and the property owners will plant the 11 trees. Those chosen will consist of Emerald Lustre Maple, Sentry Linden, and Spring Snow Crabapple trees. These tree species have been chosen to not encroach upon the airport zone.

Commissioner Wallace made a motion to recommend to the City Council the variance to the tree preservation ordinance or tree replacement schedule per City code Section 11.71, Subd. 5. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance Review: Review of Portable Sign Ordinance for Central Business District

Mr. Hoium informed the Planning Commissioners of the discussion at the City Council Work Sessions regarding allowing the sandwich signs be permitted within public sidewalk areas. This draft ordinance would also require the property or business owner to provide proof of liability insurance similar to the sidewalk café ordinance. Most sidewalks are 10 to 12 feet wide and the sandwich signs are usually 2 to 3 feet in width. The City does receive claims on trip and falls within the city public right-of-ways. Each business on Main Street has about 22 feet of store front and if every business wanted a sign, it could become a potential hazard. The League of MN Cities has regulations that need to be met and permits are required including verification of insurance. Another possibility would be to connecting signage to corner light poles for the

business located within that block. This ordinance would not effect the Real Estate Open House signage for the sale of homes. This ordinance would apply to strictly parcels located within the "B-3" Central Business District.

Commissioner Skalicky made a motion to recommend the City Council prepare a Sandwich Board Sign Ordinance within the Business District public right-of-way that fits Austin's needs. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Kim seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.