

City of Austin
500 Fourth Avenue N.E.
Austin, Minnesota 55912-3773



Holly Wallace
Planning & Zoning Administrator
507-437-9952 / Fax 507-437-7101
Cellular 1-507-438-2380
Email: hollyw@ci.austin.mn.us

**MEETING MINUTES
AUSTIN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, September 14, 2021
AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5:30 PM**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Aaron Stewart, Jana Norman, Jay Lutz, Andrew Klenner, Rita Srock, Karem Salas Ramirez

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Melissa Swenson, Megan Burroughs, Bradley Lindberg

OTHERS PRESENT: Planning & Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Craig Byram

Commissioner Lutz called meeting to order at 5:30 pm and asked if all commissioners had a chance to review the minutes from the Tuesday June 15, 2021 meeting.

Commissioner Norman motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Srock seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Roll Call below. Motion carried.

Klenner – Aye
Norman – Aye
Ramirez - Aye
Srock – Aye
Stewart – Aye
Lutz - Aye
Ayes – 6 Nays – 0

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: To consider a petition to the City of Austin from William Starman to consider a variance for a 495 sq ft solar panel to be installed at 600 27th Ave NE. Petitioner Starman is present.

Holly Wallace went over the petition and referred to the solar ordinance in an R-1 district. The petitioner is requesting a 11x45 ft solar panel to be installed in the rear yard. Petitioner already exceeds the maximum sq ft coverage for accessory structures in an R-1 district with a lot size under 1 acre.

If approved, the petitioner will have a total of 1751 sq ft coverage in accessory structures.

Commissioner Lutz drove past the property and believes there is not an aesthetic issue.

Ms. Wallace went over the variance requirements.

The city mailed notice to all surrounding neighbors with no objection received.

Commissioner Norman made a motion to recommend approval for the solar variance to the City Council. Commissioner Srock seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Roll Call below. Motion carried.

Klenner – Aye
Norman – Aye
Ramirez - Aye
Srock – Aye
Stewart – Aye
Lutz - Aye
Ayes – 6 Nays – 0

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: To consider a petition to the City of Austin for a conditional use permit to “floodproof” the Bandshell by adding 533 cubic yards of fill to the basement, as well as 13 2-way vents.

Holly Wallace went over the petition explaining that the Bandshell is wholly within the floodplain. If the fill project were to be done the structure would become conforming.

Kevin Nelson explained the repairs that have been done in the past as well as the budget. He also went over the repairs that need to be done to make the structure safe and sustainable. The proposed contractor for the job recommended the city use sand to fill the basement instead of pea rock.

Klenner questioned if the city would be removing fill from another area if adding fill to the bandshell. Parties agree that it is only required in wetlands to do that.

The city will consult with CRWD regarding the project.

The city mailed notice to surrounding neighbors with no objection received.

Commissioner Klenner motioned for approval of the CUP. Commission Norman seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Roll call below. Motion carried.

Klenner – Aye
Norman – Aye
Ramirez - Aye
Srock – Aye
Stewart – Aye
Lutz - Aye
Ayes – 6 Nays – 0

Commissioner Srock motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Ramirez seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Roll call below. Motion carried.

Klenner – Aye
Norman – Aye
Ramirez - Aye
Srock – Aye
Stewart – Aye
Lutz - Aye
Ayes – 6 Nays – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

