

FARMINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
City Council Chambers 23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, Michigan
Monday, September 10, 2012

Chairperson Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Farmington City Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan.

ROLL CALL

Present: Babcock, Bowman, Chiara, Christiansen, Crutcher, Scott
Absent: Gronbach

A quorum of the Commission was present.

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Manager Pastue, Sherrin Hood, LSL Planning.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Scott, seconded by Crutcher, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried, all ayes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting – July 9, 2012

MOTION by Bowman, seconded by Chiara, to approve the items on consent agenda.
Motion carried, all ayes.

Discussion – Request to Consider Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance

Pastue stated that Sherrin Hood had put together a matrix of other cities and their ordinances concerning animal control, i.e. the keeping of horses, including lot sizes, setbacks, enclosures and other items. He indicated that he brought the matter up before City Council to see if they would want Planning Commission to revisit the issue of keeping of horses and three members were in favor to do so. Patrick Thomas also provided information packets.

Christiansen gave background history of discussion topic and indicated Proponent Thomas was not satisfied with the results. He then opened the floor to questions from Commissioners.

Chiara inquired how many lots in Farmington would be of 2 acres or greater and Pastue responded perhaps twenty, if that many.

Scott asked if cities on matrix were those only that allowed for keeping of horses and if Hood had looked at it from the perspective of those that don't allow for same.

Babcock inquired if use was considered in the ordinance, i.e. pet or labor.

Pastue stated in going through animal ordinance, no commercial use was allowed or contemplated.

Crutcher asked if anyone had approached City Administration stating they would not like to see horses in the community and Pastue responded in the negative.

Chiara asked if Planning Commission's role was to establish parameters for City Council and Christiansen explained the Planning Commission is an advisory body to the legislative body of City Council and one of the tasks is to consider amendments and to present them to Council. In doing so, a public hearing is required.

Further discussion was held concerning proposed language in the keeping of horses amendment and the role of the Zoning Board in granting variances.

Patrick Thomas, 22342 Brookdale, was asked if he would like to address the commissioners and he did so. Further discussion was held concerning the options available to Mr. Thomas, vis a vis Zoning Board, which he felt was not a viable option.

The Commission discussed possible stipulations that could be included in the wording of the proposed amendment if one were to occur.

Update – Corridor Improvement Authority

Pastue stated the City has been working with Farmington Hills on the Joint Corridor Improvement Authority with two tasks particularly in mind, vision for businesses and residents along corridor and review of two ordinances for the cities and looking to make them compatible. He indicated there would be further activity in the coming months.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

COMMISSION COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bowman commented on the Tennis Club not giving up on ropes course and moving it indoors.

Chiara commented on the proposed cupcake factory becoming a Mexican restaurant and also the cancelling of the August meeting.

Crutcher inquired about the Drakeshire Plaza project and Christiansen stated there was a good article in the Observer about it, it being a win/win situation.

Pastue stated that there is a site plan before the Farmington Hills Planning Commission for a McDonald's at the corner of Grand River and Drake and Auto Zone.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Chiara, seconded by Scott, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried, all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary