

Minutes of the Plan Commission – February 27th 2012

A meeting of the Plan Commission of the City of Prairie du Chien was held on Monday February 27th 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Dave Hemmer called the meeting to order.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

PRESENT – Dave Hemmer (Chairperson), Linda Munson, Dan Key, Tom Nelson ABSENT - Curt Kramer, Roger Grunow, Ross Ritchie

ALSO PRESENT – Zoning Administrator Julie Jackson, Attorney Mark Peterson, City Administrator Aaron Kramer, City Planner Garth Frable

2. CERTIFICATION OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW AGENDA REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Munson SECOND: Nelson VOTE: 4-0

3. APPROVAL – Minutes of the January 16th 2012 meeting

ACTION: To approve MOTION: Hemmer SECOND: Munson VOTE: 4-0

4. PUBLIC HEARING - Application of Beinborn Brothers Construction, 100 block of E. Brunson Street, for a Conditional Use Permit to allow attached (townhouse style) single-family dwellings in an R-2 Zoning District for purposes of constructing a triplex (3 unit) apartment building

Mayor Hemmer opened the public hearing at 7:05 PM. Jackson said she had received no comments on the proposal. Dan and Dave Beinborn were present to discuss the proposal. Robert Irvine (1114 South Beaumont) had a question about access and parking. Hemmer closed the public hearing at 7:09 PM. No further approval required by Council.

5. ACTION on the aforesaid item

ACTION: To approve the application of Beinborn Brothers Construction, 100 block of E. Brunson Street, for a Conditional Use Permit to allow attached (townhouse style) single-family dwellings in an R-2 Zoning District for purposes of constructing a triplex (3 unit) apartment building MOTION: Hemmer SECOND: Munson VOTE: 4-0

6. PUBLIC HEARING - Application of Beinborn Brothers Construction, 200 block of E. Brunson Street, for a Conditional Use Permit to allow attached (townhouse style) single-family dwellings in an R-2 Zoning District for purposes of constructing a triplex (3 unit) apartment building

No further approval required by Council. Hemmer opened the public hearing at 7:09 PM. Jackson said she had received no comments on the proposal. No one spoke on the request. Hemmer closed the public hearing at 7:11 PM.

7. ACTION on the aforesaid item

ACTION: To approve the application of Beinborn Brothers Construction, 200 block of E. Brunson Street, for a Conditional Use Permit to allow attached (townhouse style) single-family dwellings in an R-2 Zoning District for purposes of constructing a triplex (3 unit) apartment building MOTION: Munson SECOND: Hemmer VOTE: 4-0

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION - Request from Elizabeth Knutson, 1407 S. 1st Street, to operate a tattoo parlor in the lower level of their home as a home occupation in an R-1 Zoning District

No further approval required by Council. Knutson answered questions from the Commission on the business. ACTION: To approve the request from Elizabeth Knutson, 1407 S. 1st Street, to operate a tattoo parlor in the lower level of their home as a home occupation in an R-1 Zoning District, with a letter from the owner of the residence approving the occupational use, and a review of the permit in one year MOTION: Nelson SECOND: Key VOTE: 4-0

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION - Request from Marc Rhodes to extend/enlarge an existing nonconforming sign that is currently leased at the Prairie du Chien Airport

No further approval required by Council. A memo from the staff was reviewed, which stated that the request to enlarge the sign would be in violation of the Great River Road sign restrictions and the restrictions against non-aeronautical uses on the airport property. ACTION: To deny the request from Marc Rhodes to extend/enlarge an existing nonconforming sign that is currently leased at the Prairie du Chien Airport MOTION: Munson SECOND: Nelson VOTE: 4-0

10. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION - Digital billboard signs

A memo from the staff outlining the options for the Plan Commission to consider was discussed, which included the possible banning of the signs entirely or allowing them as a conditional use permit. Jac Shimshak (Market Manager, Olympus Media) was also present to discuss the issue. Considerable discussion was held on the possible options. Staff was also waiting for an official ruling from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) on the legality of the signs along the Great River Road. ACTION: To recommend to the Common Council that they consider, at one of their April meetings, an ordinance approving the installation of digital billboard signs as a conditional use permit, pending the official ruling from the WDOT. MOTION: Nelson SECOND: Key VOTE: 3-1 (Hemmer opposed)

11. ADJOURNMENT (7:55 PM)

MOTION: Hemmer SECOND: Munson VOTE: 4-0

Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer

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