

# PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

## CITY OF GRANT

September 17, 2012

**Present:** Mark Wojcik, Loren Sederstrom, Becky Siekmeier, Larry Lanoux, Bill David and Bob Tufty

**Absent:** Terry Derosier

**Staff Present:** City Clerk, Kim Points

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Wojcik called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner David added item 6A, Planning Commissioner's Review Process.

**MOTION by Commissioner Sederstrom to table May 21, 2012 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes and the Work Session Items. Commissioner David seconded the motion.**

**MOTION by Commissioner Sederstrom to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Lanoux seconded the motion. MOTION carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Siekmeier announced the Grant City Candidate Forum is scheduled for Wednesday October 10, 2012, 8:00 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre at the Mahtomedi High School.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES, AUGUST 20, 2012**

Spelling and typographical errors were corrected.

**MOTION by Commissioner Sederstrom to approve the August 20, 2012 Minutes, as amended. Commissioner Siekmeier seconded the motion. MOTION carried unanimously.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Lanoux announced Mr. Art Welander passed away today. He stated he hopes people got the chance to thank Mr. Welander at the parade a couple of weeks ago. People can ask Joyce Welander what she needs help with. The family has given a lot to the community over many years.

City Clerk Points requested that any information regarding the arrangements be provided to the City.

Mr. Bob Englehart, Joliet Avenue, came forward and stated the when the siren was tested it did not work. He stated he called the City and he would like to know if the testing was done by the County Sheriff's Department. He stated he wants to make sure it is working properly.

Commissioner Lanoux requested people that cannot hear it should call the City so we know if there are dead spots.

Mr. Wally Anderson, 80<sup>th</sup> Street, came forward and commended Mr. Lanoux and everyone that worked on the parade. He stated it was a great time and a lot of work was put into it. It was a fun community event without any incident and the picnic was great.

Mr. Jack Smith, 67<sup>th</sup> Lane, came forward and thanked the committee for their volunteer efforts. He stated they take a lot of time. He added that never in all his years has he seen such a debacle with a performance review at the last Council meeting. He stated he has provided performance reports before and they are meant to improve performance. He stated he is sorry that happened and he hopes the Council makes amends. He stated he does not want to see residents berated in the way the PC members were. He noted the PC members have his full support.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Planning Commissioner's Review Process** – Commissioner David advised a performance review process for Planning Commissioners was conducted at the last Council meeting. He is unclear if the City has a process for this. It is very disheartening, the whole thing was wrong and he is not sure the Planning Commission should let this go on.

Commissioner Sederstrom stated a performance review can't just be a random process although PC members can be reviewed. The Planning Commission should develop a formalized review process. He noted he realizes the Council wanted to conduct the review in private but his attorney advised against that. He stated he is not sure if the Planning Commission Ordinance was published. The whole thing was a fiasco and the PC should look at this issue. He added that he also realizes it was a scare tactic by the School District.

Commissioner Lanoux stated he has had the pleasure of being both a resident and a PC member. He stated he believes the PC is working well together and when appointed to the PC it was by five Council Members. The Mayor stated at that time that the PC works for the pleasure of the Council and can be removed at any time. The PC also

represents the City of Grant and its citizens. He asked if the PC members are being protected by the City Attorney and if the City Attorney also represents the PC.

Mr. Bob Englehart came forward and asked why the performance review discussion was not included in the summary minutes. It is not mentioned anywhere and it was like it never happened.

Vice Chair Wojcik stated issues were brought up about Mr. Lanoux that he was exonerated on and a letter of apology was issued.

**MOTION by Commissioner Lanoux to establish a policy relating to a review process at the next Planning Commission meeting to include the City Planner and City Attorney and determine if there is a current policy. Commissioner Sederstrom seconded the motion.**

Commissioner Sederstrom added a friendly amendment to the motion to include Planning Commissioner's write down ideas for a grading sheet. Commissioner Lanoux agreed to the friendly amendment.

Commissioner Siekmeier stated she thinks it is bizarre that it was done in the first place. The Planning Commissioners are volunteers. However, if it is going to be done there should be an established procedure.

Commissioner Sederstrom stated it was a precursor to a restraining order and he does not want that on his record. Therefore, he had to obtain legal counsel.

**MOTION carried with Commissioner Tufty voting nay.**

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. May 21, 2012 Meeting Minutes** – Vice Chair Wojcik advised he was not present last month when another vote was taken on the May 21, 2012 Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION by Commissioner Sederstrom to table the May 21, 2012 Meeting Minutes until Chair Derosier is present as his input is needed. Commissioner David seconded the motion.**

Commissioner Siekmeier advised there was a tie vote the last time and now the Chair is absent. He did vote yes to approve the minutes. She asked what would change if the Chair is present.

Vice Chair Wojcik stated the topic is charged with more than a bit of politics. Many of the Council Members and Planning Commissioners are running for office. He made a friendly amendment to table the minutes to the November PC meeting when the election is over.

Commissioner Sederstrom agreed to the friendly amendment.

**MOTION carried with Commissioner Tufty voting nay.**

**8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

There were no reports from Commissioner's.

**9. SET AGENDA, OCTOBER 15, 2012 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**

The next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commissioners Review Process and Work Session items were noted for the next agenda.

Commissioner David requested that the PC find out if the City has a formal review process prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Lanoux asked that everyone take one more moment to honor Mr. Art Welander. Mr. Welander spent hours and hours in the community. He worked with youth regularly and it would be a great honor to him if they can get 4H back into the community.

Commissioner Sederstrom read the information noted on the parade brochure relating to Mr. Welander, the Grand Marshall of the parade.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Commissioner Siekmeier to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Commissioner Lanoux seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Points  
City Clerk