

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session on Tuesday September 8, 2015 at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Greg Matt, Jeff Berg, Don Kring, Linda Berndt, Ron Parker and City Attorney, Dave Matsey.

RE: AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Mayor Chambers asked that the agenda be amended to change the order of business. He presented the amended agenda to the Council. Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to accept the amended agenda. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion seconded by Greg Matt to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mayor Chambers said there has been a citizen complaint about the placement of dumpsters in the alley between Main and Shield street in the downtown area. The family that made the complaint was not present. The Mayor tried to work out the problem between the two property owners, but was unable to come up with a mutually agreed solution. The vendor who owns the dumpster in question, Republic, doesn't want to deal with the problem anymore and has pulled the dumpster out. He thinks the problem will re-occur when a new company is contracted to bring in another dumpster.

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION - ZONING AMENDMENT

Planning Commission President, Jeff Berg read the following findings of fact and recommendation to the Council.

Knox Plan Commission
September 1, 2015
Public hearing: Amendment of Knox Zoning Map
Owner: Stare County Economic Development Foundation

FINDINGS OF FACT

A Public Hearing was held on September 1, 2015 upon the petition to amend the City of Knox zoning map filed by the Starke County Economic Development Foundation from R-1 Single Family Residential to M-1 Light Industrial. The Knox Plan Commission makes the following findings of fact:

1. The requested rezoning from R-1 Single Family Residential to M-1 Light Industrial is consistent and that the proposed project property will be part of the Knox Industrial Park and enhance the tax base of the City of Knox, Indiana by creating additional employment opportunities for the residents of Knox.
2. There will be no adverse effect on the adjacent property owners. Several owners were present at the hearing and spoke in positive support for the project.
3. There is presently insufficient available land within the City of Knox zoning district that is zoned M-1.
4. The proposed change in the zoning map will further the purposes of the zoning ordinance and the Knox Comprehensive Plan, to wit; this land rezoned to M-1 Light Industrial and its operations will be contained within the Knox Industrial Park.

RECOMMENDATION

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED by the Knox Plan Commission that the City of Knox Common Council approve and grant this petition to amend the Knox Zoning map filed by the Starke County Economic Development Foundation.

RECOMMENDED, this 1st day of September, 2015

Jeff V. Berg, President, Knox Plan Commission

Charlie Weaver asked that the council pass the recommendation to grant the petition to amend the zoning map to rezone from R-1 to M-1 the 16 acres at 250 East and Pacific Avenue on the South East corner.

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Linda Berndt to approve the recommendation and rezone the property. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING TO DECLARE AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA FOR TCS

Mayor Rick Chambers opened the public hearing to consider declaring an economic revitalization area for TCS. A sign in sheet was passed around. Starke County Economic Development Foundation Director, Charlie Weaver spoke in favor of the project. He noted that sixteen acres would be used at the South East corner of 250 East and 50 South and would result in about 20 new jobs. A tax phase in would be utilized. He said this is a necessary step to move the project forward. No further comments were made. The Mayor closed the meeting.

RESOLUTION #919 DECLARING ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA FOR TCS

Mayor Rick Chambers presented Resolution #919 to the Council and read it out loud. Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve the resolution as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays. Mayor Chambers noted that exhibit "A" referred to in the resolution

