

**CITY OF KNOX PLANNING COMMISSION  
101 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
KNOX, INDIANA 46534  
574-772-5445**

Members Present: Jeff Berg; Sherry Cowen; Jim Jenkins; Jeff Houston; Jim Brown;  
Ronald Parker; John Wilson; Don Kring, President; Jeff Houston,  
Secretary; member Dave Metz arrived late

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lonnie Boley, Director of Building, Planning and Code Compliance;  
Justin Schramm, Attorney

Staff Absent: None

The August 6, 2024 Planning Commission meeting of the Planning Commission was held at Knox City Hall. The meeting was called to order by President, Don Kring, at 6:00 P.M. CST with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call preformed.

Amendment to the Agenda:

Jeff Berg made a motion to correct "New Business – Item #8 Zoning Change" to reflect the correct parcel number. Motion was seconded by John Wilson. Motion passed with eight (8) ayes and no (0) nays.

Approval of Minutes:

Jim Jenkins made a motion to accept the May 8, 2024 minutes as presented. Ron Parker seconded the motion. Motion passed with eight (8) ayes and no (0) nays.

Member Dave Metz arrived at this time.

Tech Committee Update:

Jeff Berg noted that the Committee had not done a lot of work lately and that the computer crashed. He said the Committee could work on whatever the Board wanted them to.

Beginning in July of 2025 whenever the Committee meets it will need to be videoed and minutes kept. Justin Schramm said he spoke to the Public Access Councilor for the State of Indiana, Luke Britt. His advice was to be as cautious as possible since it is a “delegated zoning authority”. Therefore, minutes and video would need to be taken.

Jeff Berg said that going forward, he didn’t know if he would like to continue as the head of the Committee.

Lonnie said he believes when winter arrives, work will slow at the Water Department, and one of those employees may be able to work on the computer.

Old Business: Review of Ordinance 1148 – Weeds and Rank Vegetation:

Lonnie Boley told the Commissioners that we had discussed section 11-8 previously at the May 8, 2024 meeting. He noted that administrative costs were at least \$10.00 more to the City than the \$15.00 limit the City charges currently.

Commissioner, Jim Brown, noted that the cost of the mailings of certified letters would add nearly an additional \$10.00.

Mr. Boley noted that additional costs are enumerated in section 11-6. He also noted that only one notification of being out of compliance is needed each year.

John Wilson made a motion to recommend to the City Council that they change Ordinance #1148 section 11-8 to strike the word "\$15.00" and change it to "actual cost of administrative fees." Jim Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed with nine (9) ayes and no (0) nays.

New Business: Review of Ordinance #124 – Bikes:

Lonny Boley stated Ordinance #124 was written in 1958. He believes the ordinance should be rescinded. He believes State Law states that bikes can still be impounded but they do not have to be licensed.

Ron Parker made a motion to recommend to the City Council that they rescind Ordinance #124. Sherry Cowen seconded the motion. Motion passed with nine (9) ayes and no (0) nays.

New Business: 250 S Zoning Change:

Lonny said that the property in question is within the two-mile jurisdiction. It consists of almost 20 acres. The owner would like the property zoned R-1 instead of its present zoning of M-1. He thinks the board should be able to grant it as long as we have a hearing.

Commissioner John Wilson said he considers it spot zoning and not just adding on to connected zoning. He thought this could cause future issues. If the board denies it, the owner could still go before the Board of Zoning Appeals, BZA, to request a special use variance.

Attorney Schramm said the Planning Commission could grant the change after a hearing or if we denied it the owner could still go to the BZA with an appeal. A general discussion took place. No official actions were taken at this time.

Citizens Comments:

None.

Other Business:

None.

Adjournment:

Commissioner, Sherry Cowen, made a motion which was seconded by Commissioner, Ron Parker, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with nine (9) ayes and no (0) nays. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 P.M. CST

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Jeffery J. Houston  
Secretary