

CITY OF KNOX PLANNING COMMISSION

101 WEST WASHINGTON STREET

KNOX, INDIANA 46534

574-772-5445

Members Present: Don Kring; Jeff V. Berg; Ron Parker; Brent Van Norman; Dan Allen;

Jeff Houston; James Jenkins

Members Absent: John Wilson; Todd Flagg

Staff Present: None

Staff Absent: Kenny Pfof

The March 1, 2022 Planning Commission was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President Don Kring with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call performed. Commissioner Parker made a motion to accept the February 7, 2022 minutes as presented with Commissioner Van Norman providing the second to the motion. Minutes approved 7-0.

Amendment to the Agenda:

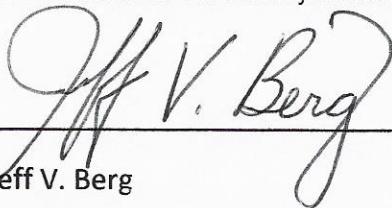
Commissioner Houston requested an amendment to the agenda to reference a future Knox Planning Commission attorney. President Kring proposed having the amendment placed in the agenda at (4-A). Vice President Berg made the motion to secure the amendment to the agenda "Discussion of a Knox Planning Commission Attorney" at (4-A) and Commissioner Van Norman providing the second to the motion. Amendment to the Agenda approval 7-0.

Commissioner Houston stated he had contacted Justin Schramm, an attorney from Winamac, Indiana with a phone number-574-946-6850. Commissioner Houston spoke about the need for retaining an attorney and stated Mr. Schramm would be available the first Tuesday of each month. Commissioner Houston was okay paying the current amount (over \$6,000) for an attorney. Vice President Berg stated he believes that is too much money to pay an attorney and he has not seen equitable attorney service since being on the plan commission. Commissioner Van Norman stated an attorney could be given pertinent information as needed without the need to attend every meeting and perhaps a fee could be paid for services as deemed necessary. Commissioner Parker eluded that information when given could take weeks for an answer causing possible delays in commission work. After more brief discussion, President Kring stated he would speak with Mr. Schramm along with administrator Ken Pfof.

Commissioner Van Norman made a motion to allow President Kring to speak with Winamac attorney Justin Schramm and the availability and projected cost of his services and report back with a second by Commissioner Parker. Motion approval 7-0. Vice President Berg stated he would still need an interview process with a written agreement of approval.

New Business: A New ordinance pertinent to Non-Conforming Lots of Record; Non-Conforming Structures; Non-Conforming Uses of Land; Non-Conforming Uses or Structures and Land in Combination; Distinction Between Illegal Non-Conforming and Legal Non-Conforming Structures and Uses; Repairs and Maintenance; and Notice of Abandonment was emailed for discussion. Vice President Berg stated the existing city of Knox ordinance dealing with non-conforming is basically useless as it is presented adding the existing ordinance does not provide the key components needed for non-conforming use and this draft ordinance copy (City of Whiting) is comprehensive and entails sequential information needed for the city of Knox. Overall, consensus was that it is a good ordinance but some commissioners had reservations regarding the completion of a structure after the commencement after a casualty should possibly be changed from 36 months to 24 months for completion. Vice President Berg and Commissioner Van Norman will provide the commission their tech committee review, analysis, and recommendation at the next meeting.

Adjournment: Commissioner Parker makes a motion to adjourn at 6:49 P.M. and seconded by Commissioner Allen. Adjournment approval 7-0.



Jeff V. Berg

Vice President