



**CITY OF NEWPORT
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
March 9, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anthony Mahmood called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. on March 9, 2021.

2. ROLL CALL

Present (4): Chairman Anthony Mahmood, Commissioner Brandon Leyde, Commissioner Tami Fuelling, and Commissioner Michael Kermes.

Not Present (1): Commissioner Maria Bonilla

3. MEETING MINUTES

A. February 11, 2021

Commissioner Leyde stated on page 3 of the minutes when Chair Mahmood was speaking, he believes Chair Mahmood meant “in addition to” when discussing the IUP.

City Planner Sherri Buss stated in the section regarding the Gordon Nesvig’s testimony, there is a statement they would need a rezoning change for developing as R-1 or R-2. Planner Buss stated they would only need a rezoning change for developing as R-2 as in the RE district, parcels within 100 feet of the sewer are automatically R-1.

Commissioner Leyde motioned to approve the Planning Commission Minutes from February 11 with the discussed corrections. Seconded by Chair Mahmood. Approved 4-0.

4. PUBLIC HEARING- Shoreland Ordinance

Planner Buss stated there is an overlap between the MRCCA ordinance and the existing shoreland ordinance. Given the overlap, the DNR stated we can take the Mississippi River area out of the shoreland ordinance and just make a reference to the MRCCA, or we can update the shoreland ordinance so that the standards would be the same as the MRCCA. Planner Buss suggested we take the Mississippi River area out of the shoreland ordinance and therefore we need to hold a public hearing.

Chair Mahmood opened the public hearing at 5:51 p.m. on March 9, 2021.

Bill Sumner who resides at 737 21st Street addressed the Commission. Mr. Sumner stated he supports Planner Buss’s recommendations.

Chair Mahmood closed the public hearing at 5:52 p.m. on March 9, 2021.

Commissioner Leyde motioned to recommend the changes to the ordinance as presented by Planner Buss. Seconded by Chair Mahmood. Approved 4-0.

5. TREE ORDINANCE

Planner Buss stated the City needs to discuss updating our tree ordinance. Both Susan Lindoo, who used to be on the Planning Commission, and Matt Yokiell who is the Assistant Super-Intendent of Public Works, feel that the City’s tree ordinance needs to be updated. They suggested we look at neighboring communities who have recently updated their tree ordinance as well as the DNR and the U.S. Forest Service recommendations on tree ordinances. The tree ordinance should have two parts. One part that deals with tree diseases and hazardous trees and a second part that deals with tree protection and planting during development. Planner Buss prepared a draft on the first part which is on diseased and hazardous trees.

The Commission discussed having Matt Yokiell and/or Susan Lindoo attend the next Planning Commission meeting to further discuss the tree ordinance.

6. COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Leyde stated the Council reviewed and approved the Commission’s recommendation for catering in the MX-1 and MX-3 district. They opposed the MX-4 district due to the proximity between Newport and the Refinery. Planner Buss stated in the future the Council discussed possibly expanding to B-1 (business park district) as a permitted use.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Leyde motioned to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Fuelling. Approved 4-0.

The Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m. on March 9, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Anthony Mahmood, Chairman