

City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Tuesday May 16, 5:30 pm City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present:

Chairman Mark Herman, Roger Cain, Joe Ebens, Jeff Hallock, Craig Carpenter, Rick Ryland, Commissioner Kurt Wilson and Karly Spell.

Also, Present: Mayor Ken Williams and City Clerk Charlene Ruthe.

Mark Herman moved to approve the April 18, 2017 minutes, Seconded by Kurt Wilson.

Motion carried. No Nays.

The Public Hearing was opened to discuss a variance application submitted by Phil Platz 201 Hastings Avenue, to construct a garage closer than the required lot line setbacks.

The City Clerk has on file the notices from the adjoining property owners that were sent along with the publication certificate from the newspaper.

Chairman Mark Herman read the standard review questions that are asked when applying for a variance. No additional questions were asked. The Public Hearing was closed.

Mark Herman moved to recommend to the City Council the variance submitted by Phil Platz 201 Hastings Avenue, to construct a garage closer than the set-back requirements, Seconded by Rick Ryland.

Motion carried. No Nays.

OK Welty owns the property at 114 N River Road. He has closed the business that was currently there and trying to sell the property. It's zoned Commercial Highway Business District. He is wanting to know if it's possible to rezone to Residential, four single family homes are within 685 feet. He could apply for a variance to rezone.

The request to change parking on Madison Street was tabled.

Discussion took place on vegetation on the terrace in residential areas. Height, type of grass and/or plants, and how-to Police. What happens if they are unable to grow grass and want to plant something else? Talked about a variance for the ones that currently have other vegetation on terrace or making them bring back to grass. Some people might not be able to afford that. It was decided that a committee be formed to look further into what should be done.

Discussion took place on parking of Boats and RV's in the residential areas. Talked about making people get a permit, but then how much would they be? Should citizens be required to put in a pad or gravel to park them on? Kurt and Jeff will be considering what other communities are doing.

Chairman Mark Herman announced the Public Hearing for the Ogle County request to rezone their parcels from Residential R-1 to Commercial will be this Thursday May 18th 6:00 pm at the Coliseum Building 124 N 4th Street.

Anne Jones handed in petitions against the jail being built on South 6th Street. Five hundred in total signed the petition. Why a two hundred bed surrounding communities are only eighty? Closing 6th Street will also be a burden for traffic.

Jim Barnes has also received several letters against the jail being built on South 6th Street. Don't build in downtown. Other surrounding communities have built their jail outside of the downtown.

Chairman Mark Herman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mark Herman moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Kurt Wilson.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Adjourn: 6:15 PM

Charlene Ruthe, Secretary