

City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Tuesday August 18th, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Zoom Meeting.

Members Present: Rachel Brunner, Roger Cain, Randy Cropp, Jeff Hallock, Mark Hermann, Rick Ryland, Karly Spell, and Commissioner Kurt Wilson.

Also Present: Mayor Ken Williams, City Administrator Darin DeHaan, Street Superintendent Terry Plemmons, City Clerk Cheryl Hilton.

Chairman Mark Hermann called the meeting to order.

Randy Cropp moved to approve the June 16th, 2020 minutes, Seconded by Rachel Brunner.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Darin DeHaan opened the discussion on amending Chapter 32 Section 32-86. Definitions were added to clarify the type of work being done as well as adding a required permit. Street Superintendent Terry Plemmons has noticed construction to driveways without receiving any information on the work being done. Requiring a permit would allow the street department to monitor the construction of the driveway and ensure that heavy equipment is not damaging City streets, sidewalks, and curb and gutter. Rachel Brunner asked if the City is charging a fee for the driveway permit. City Council approved the cost of a driveway permit to be \$100.00. If work begins without a permit there is a \$100.00 fine. Typically, if the driveway is only being "repaired" there is no fee. Roger Cain said that \$100.00 fee for permit may deter residents from performing necessary maintenance. He would like to see a tiered permit fee. Mayor Ken Williams said that we need to encourage residents to improve property but not so difficult that they will not want to make improvements.

Roger Cain moved to recommend the amendment on Chapter 32 Section 32-86 with tiered pricing to City Council, Seconded by Rachel Brunner.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Darin DeHaan opened the discussion on amending Chapter 32-88. New language was added to clarify the ordinance. The new language would require homeowners to replace gravel driveways with asphalt, concrete, or grass pavers and require an apron. Roger Cain asked if an apron would be required if there is no curb and gutter. He does not think that requiring an apron will help save a street that is already in disrepair. Rachel Brunner said that some changes need to be made to move forward and make city streets better for the future. Separation of requirements for driveways that are off a city street versus an alley was also added.

Kurt Wilson moved to recommend the amendment on Chapter 32 Section 32-88 to City Council, Seconded by Mark Hermann.

Roll Call: Ayes: Brunner, Cropp, Hallock, Hermann, Ryland, Spell, and Wilson. Nays: Cain.

Mark Hermann presented the recommendations for the Tree Replacement Program. The program includes a list of approved trees with a 50/50 cost share between the homeowner and the City. A list of trees to avoid is also included. A permit is required at no cost. The Committee thanked Rachel Brunner, Mark Hermann, and Terry Plemmons.

Kurt Wilson moved to recommend the Tree Replacement Program to City Council, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Mayor Ken Williams said that if the county is going to rezone a property with 1 ½ miles from the city limits, the county needs to notify the City. The county is going to rezone a property north of Lowden State Park. Since the property is separated by a state park, the 1 ½ mile requirement continues past the state park. The property has been purchased by a company that is in California with the intentions of creating a memorial tree forest. If the City had any objections to the use of the property an objection would need to be filed with the county.

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

Motion carried. No Nays.

Adjourn: 6:15 PM

Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk