

City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Tuesday January 19th, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Zoom Meeting.

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

Also, Present: Sarah Brooks, Attorney Paul Chadwick, City Clerk Cheryl Hilton, Joy Schuble, and Mayor Ken Williams.

Also, Present at City Hall: Brian Cash and City Administrator Darin DeHaan.

Mark Herman called the meeting to order.

Public Hearing was opened at 5:32 PM.

City Administrator Darin DeHaan said a resident has expressed an interest in having a portion of Taylor Street vacated. He said Brian Cash would like to place a driveway in the vacated portion so he can build a garage to store his property in and the City has no plans to utilize the property. Joy Schuble said there is a lot of noise that already comes from the property and is afraid this will cause more noise disturbance. Randy Cropp said complaints have been made about loud motor vehicles but found no evidence of them being any louder than other vehicles. Roger Cain said noise complaints should be handled by other venues, not the Planning Commission. Rick Ryland spoke on behalf of another resident who is against vacating the property. He asked if the property was zoned Commercial since there was a lot of vehicles coming and going on the property. Brian Cash said there is no business being run from his property. He would like to build a garage and put in a driveway to get vehicles off the street. Rick Ryland also asked if lot sizes would still be up to city code. City Administrator Darin DeHaan said both lots affected by vacating Taylor Street would gain property size and would need to be re-parceled. Attorney Paul Chadwick said the City has ordinances that govern noise complaints, and the Committee is deciding if vacating Taylor Street will be beneficial to the property owners and the City.

Commissioner Kurt Wilson moved to close the Public Hearing, Seconded by Rachel Brunner.

Public Hearing was closed at 5:53 PM.

Roger Cain moved to recommend Vacating Taylor Street to the City Council, Seconded by Rachel Brunner.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Karly Spell moved to approve the November 17th, 2020 minutes, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Permit Requirements for Siding and Roofing were discussed. Kurt Wilson said no inspection is required at this time for work done to siding and roofing. He wants to make sure that the work is done properly and is up to city code. Casper Manheim will be getting more information from other communities. Roger Cain said all roofers are required to carry a state license and requiring a permit would allow the City to know the quality of people doing the work. There is still a lot of things to work out at this point. Mark Herman asked if a homeowner would have to be licensed as well. This is something that needs to be considered as well when creating the permit.

Powered Bicycles were discussed. Kurt Wilson has seen quite of few powered bicycles in town. Many of them have no break lights or any safety features. Roger Cain said these bicycles were not designed to go at high speeds, have improper braking systems and are just unsafe. Randy Cropp said there have been quite a few noise complaints and they are required to follow and obey all Illinois vehicle codes otherwise it is a ticket-able offense. Rachel Brunner believes the guidelines should be like the UTV ordinance.

Safety Protocol for Working in the Downtown was discussed. Kurt Wilson is concerned for the safety of residents when work is being completed in the downtown area. Many times, a man lift is placed on a city sidewalk with no cones or other warnings. Roger Cain said permitting could help with this. Rick Ryland said we do not want to see businesses afraid to do improvements because this benefits the City as well as the owner.

City Administrator Darin DeHaan said the City Zoning Map still needs to be updated. He has separated the town into sections. He would like to see the map updated by April 1st, 2021. Any volunteers would be appreciated.

Jeff Hallock moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM.

Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk