

## City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 pm.

**Members Present:** Roger Cain, Randy Cropp, Jeff Hallock, Liz Hiemstra, Mark Herman, Rick Ryland, and Karly Spell.

**Also, Present:** City Manager Darin DeHaan, City Clerk Cheryl Hilton, Council Member Terry Schuster, and Mayor Ken Williams.

Chairman Mark Herman called the meeting to order.

The committee members welcomed Liz Hiemstra to the Planning Commission.

Randy Cropp moved to approve the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, minutes, Seconded by Mark Herman.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Mayor Ken Williams stated the Planning Commission is a statutorily ordained committee that sets the vision for the city and represents the community. The goal of the comprehensive plan is to achieve the vision. He said their input on the Comprehensive Plan for land use is especially important. He stated the plan is a living document that is used on a regular basis. This plan provides guidance to the city for the next ten years.

Mark Herman moved to approve the Comprehensive plan with discussed changes, Seconded by Jeff Hallock.

Roger Cain thanked all the members who were involved with the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. City Manager Darin DeHaan said after the steering committee completed their review of the plan, the Executive Committee submitted another fifty-six changes to NIU. After the public hearing/public meeting held at CMAAA, Affordable Housing was also added to the plan. He also said version six of the plan includes zoning changes to the south end of town to residential or light industrial. Roger Cain said it looks like there was a large gap in representation from residents on the survey. He also suggested meeting regularly to discuss key topics or issues relating to the comprehensive plan. Mark Herman said he was concerned with the vast amount of space that is labeled as green space when it is all privately owned and could be changed. Mayor Ken Williams stated the city can provide input on property located within a mile and a half of city limits. The commission discussed designating certain properties located within the mile and a half boundary as residential. Designating these properties as residential could provide the best defense for future growth.

Karly Spell moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm, Seconded by Jeff Hallock.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Submitted by Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk