

MINUTES
City of Alpena Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
July 22, 2020
Alpena, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Paul Sabourin, Planning Commission Chair.

ROLL CALL: PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESENT: Wojda, Sabourin, VanWagoner, Gilmore, Kirschner

ABSENT: Austin, Lewis, Boboltz

STAFF: Don Gilmet (Building Official), Cassie Stone (Recording Secretary).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 16, 2020 minutes was approved as printed.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION ACTION: None

BUSINESS:

Final Draft Comprehensive Plan

Gilmet states that what we are doing with this plan is just reviewing edits and changes that Denise from NEMCOG has put in the plan from our input. We are not adopting it we are just approving it tonight to be sent up the chain to the City Council. City Council will then approve the plan for distribution to the adjacent communities and stakeholders to review via email. This will include Alpena County, Alpena Township and the Transportation Agencies. They will then have 63 days to review and respond to the plan. After that period is up, the Planning Commission will hold the public hearing. When that date is scheduled, Gilmet stated he will put a 15 day notice of the hearing date in the paper and then at the public hearing meeting, the Planning Commission will then adopt the Comprehensive Plan by resolution, followed by the City Council adopting it as well by resolution and then the adopted plan will then get distributed out.

Motion made by Wojda to approve the document as presented, **seconded by Kirschner**.

Gilmore added that the bio refinery is still mentioned in the document but Gilmet added that he believes is still ongoing but he is going to check with Denise tonight. Gilmore also stated that under the economic development, renaissance zones, there are expiration dates that are listed. Gilmet stated that it is being displayed as past tense.

Motion amended by Wojda to approve as printed but to submit a question to Denise related to the bio refinery issue brought up by Gilmore. **Seconded by Kirschner**.

Ayes: Sabourin, VanWagoner, Kirschner, Gilmore, Wojda

Nay: None

Absent: Austin, Lewis, Boboltz

Motion approved by a vote of 5-0.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

REPORTS:

Commission discussion on Zoning Text changes for vehicles and vegetation.

Gilmet stated that Denise is looking into some zoning text changes to help clear up some of the problems with blight in the city and also with milk weed located around town in people's yards and in vacant lots that people are getting upset about because if it gets cut it is disturbing the monarch population. Gilmet also added that better clarification should be addressed in response to demo derby repairs happening in the city and how quickly cars are started to accumulate in peoples yards and becoming an eyesore.

Gilmet stated that five candidates so far have been interviewed for the planner-economic development position for the city with one more being interviewed on July 31st.

CALL TO PUBLIC: None

MEMBER'S COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m., by Sabourin, Planning Commission Chair.


Wayne Lewis, Secretary