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City of Ashland, Wisconsin

601 Main Street West — Ashland, WI 54806 — www.cowwi.org

City of Ashland – Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Ashland Plan Commission was held on **Tuesday, December 20th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.** via GoToMeeting.

Committee Members Present: Mayor MacKenzie, John Beirl, Ana Tochtermann, and, Jeff Beirl

Committee Members Absent: David Mettillie (excused), Laurie Gregor (excused), and JoAnn Erickson (excused)

Staff Present: Steven Wiley, Mandelyn Lyons, Max Lindsey

Mayor MacKenzie opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

1) Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by John Beirl, seconded by Ana Tochtermann. Passed unanimously.

2) Consent Agenda

a) Approval of minutes from the September 20, 2022 & October 18, 2022 Plan Commission meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2022 & October 18, 2022 Plan Commission meetings by John Beirl, seconded by Jeff Beirl. Passed unanimously.

3) Public Comment (non-agenda items)

Will Pipkin commented, "It's cold."

4) Action Items

a) Railroad right-of-way purchasing procedure with citizen initiated requests – Discussion/Action if necessary

Steven Wiley introduced and explained issues regarding citizen initiated railroad right-of-way purchases. He explained that there currently is not a system in place for the sale of these properties since prior staff was advised these sales are not allowed. Steven further explained that there are complexities with railroad ROWs and how Max Lindsey is drafting a policy for staff to follow.

Max Lindsey presented the draft policy which outlined potential pricing and how areas of land should be dispersed between abutting property owners.

Several commissioners asked what price citizens would be charged for the land they acquire in a railroad ROW sale.

Lindsey responded that the price he mentioned in the draft policy can be changed and that the pricing suggested is based off of current ROW vacation pricing.

The Commission asked that staff follow the proposed policy as presented by Lindsey for the first Railroad ROW land sale and come back to the Planning Commission with any comments or concerns on the process before making it official.

5) Announcements/Reports/Comments/Questions

6) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by John Beirl. Seconded by Ana Tochterman. Passed unanimously.
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Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. Minutes done by Mandelyn Lyons.