

City of Potterville Planning Commission Meeting

February 21, 2023 - 7:00 p.m. – Potterville City Hall, 319 N. Nelson Street

Call to Order: Brandy Miller, Zoning Administrator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge: Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Roll Call: Present: Mark Swanson, Tim Maynard, Bob Nichols, and Jon McNett
Absent: George Kepler.

Staff: Brandy Miller

Agenda: A motion was made by **Commissioner Nichols** to approve the agenda as written. **Commissioner McNett** supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Miller opened elections for officers of the Planning Commission.

Ms. Miller called for nominations for Chair of the Planning Commission. **Commissioner Maynard** nominated Commissioner Swanson as Chair. **Commissioner McNett** supported. Hearing no other nominations, **Commissioner Maynard** moved to approve Commissioner Swanson as Chair of the Planning Commission. **Commissioner McNett** supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Swanson took over the responsibilities of chairing the Planning Commission Meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Commissioner Swanson called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Planning Commission. **Commissioner Nichols** nominated Commissioner Maynard as Vice-Chair. Hearing no other nominations, **Commissioner Nichols** moved to approve Commissioner Maynard as Vice-Chair of the Planning Commission. **Member McNett** supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Swanson called for nominations for Secretary of the Planning Commission. **Commissioner Nichols** nominated Commissioner McNett. **Commissioner Maynard** supported. Hearing no other nominations, **Commissioner Nichols** moved to approved Commissioner McNett as Secretary of the Planning Commissioner. **Commissioner Maynard** supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Maynard moved to close elections. **Commissioner McNett** supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Libby Ranshaw asked about how the public comment section will work for this meeting. Ms. Miller stated the Planning Commission will accept public comment at this time regarding Marihuana facilities and later in the meeting.

Ms. Kathrine Bussard, stated she has spoken at the Planning Commission Meetings in the past and while she was on council, she supported the moratorium. While she does not support marihuana in our community, she understands the gravity of the recent petitions. With the current state laws in place, all of the information puts a different light on the situation for her. She stated the regulatory commission did not exist in the past. She stated the best option to move forward is to allow for a limited non-medical retail location; one location regulated as much as possible and keeping the control with the local governing bodies. She stated there is a risk in allowing any company to draft a petition that works for them, and not the local people. She asked the Planning Commission to look at properties that are as far away from the school and playgrounds as possible. Ms. Bussard stated this isn't something she thought she would be here advocating for, but it is a gamble the longer we leave it unaddressed.

Mr. Mike Shockley thanked the Planning Commission for their time. He stated he only has questions, but chose not to share them.

Public Hearing of Special Use Permit: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Marihuana Facilities – Discussion

Commissioner Swanson stated the Planning Commission will need to determine what type of facilities that would like to consider. He asked Ms. Miller how this process will move forward. Ms. Miller stated she would like to have the Planning Commission host one additional public input meeting and then move forward with the Planning Commission discussing what they would like to see while review other jurisdictions ordinances. Ms. Miller stated she would expect the Planning Commission to meet monthly and hopes to have something before council for approval in August.

Commissioner Nichols stated he would like the information regarding the cost sharing revenue. Ms. Miller cautioned the Planning Commission on making a decision based on potential revenue, but stated she would provide the information.

Reports: Ms. Miller gave an update on the development of Cambria Ridge and Independence Commons.

Public Comment: Ms. Libby Ranshaw stated she doesn't have much to add; she understands how people feel about marihuana, she is concerned for the citizens and children of Potterville in regards to the potential access in Potterville. She stated she understands if we allow another petition to come forward, it could pass and opens us up to more facilities and bar type facilities, which is a concern. We need to have a governing ordinance that protects us and has what we the citizens want and not others telling us what to put in our community.

Ms. Judy Lenneman stated the city is small and has a very limited police force. She stated we have things we have to take care of here such as our citizens and school children. She stated we have limited funds; this is going to cost the city money. Ms. Lenneman stated there will be more tax dollars, but this will also cost the city more money. We need to think of our children, they need to be protected; they have gone through covid and swatting, they are on guard at all times. Putting marihuana in our small town will affect our kids. We have to help our children, they only way to help is to keep it on the outlying areas, not near the families and the children.

Upcoming Cases: Ms. Miller informed the Planning Commission they do not have any cases to hear at their March 21, 2023 meeting, but stated they will be meeting to host the same discussion.

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Maynard moved to adjourn the February 21, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting. **Commissioner Nichols** supported. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.