

**SHOREVIEW PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Solomonson called the January 27, 2015 Shoreview Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Solomonson; Commissioners, Ferrington, McCool, Peterson, Proud, and Thompson.

Commissioner Schumer was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Solomonson noted that the Planning Commission will meet in a workshop session immediately following the meeting.

MOTION: by Commissioner Proud, seconded by Commissioner McCool to approve the January 27, 2015 Planning Commission meeting agenda as presented.

VOTE: Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Commissioner McCool, seconded by Commissioner Ferrington to approve the December 16, 2014 Planning Commission meeting minutes, as presented.

VOTE: Ayes - 6 Nays - 0 Abstain - 1 (Peterson)

REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

City Planner Castle stated that there were no actions to report.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING - TEXT AMENDMENT-SECTION 210 AND 211- PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, NUISANCES AND ABATEMENTS

FILE NO.: 2558-15-01
APPLICANT: CITY OF SHOREVIEW
LOCATION: CITY WIDE

Presentation by City Planner Kathleen Castle

The text amendment proposed is to Section 210, *Nuisance*, and Section 211, *Property Maintenance*, to define tall grass and weeds as a public nuisance and clarify the abatement process. The first amendment to Section 211 specifies that lawn areas cannot exceed 9 inches in height. Native grasses are an exception. Vacant properties cannot have non-woody vegetation exceeding 18 inches in height. The reference to the Minnesota Statute section on noxious weeds is deleted, as that section has changed. The reference in the Code will just be to Minnesota Statutes.

In Section 210, *Nuisance*, 210.010 (B) language would be added to identify tall grass and weeds as a public nuisance. The reference to Minnesota Statutes is also updated.

Section 210.020, *Abatement Procedure* would be amended to add language to include noxious weeds and tall grass. The abatement procedure requires the Council to hold a public hearing after which abatement may be ordered immediately.

Notice of this public hearing was published in the City's legal newspaper. No public comments were received. One Commissioner questioned the use of the term "growth height," suggesting the term be changed to "height."

Staff recommends the Text Amendment be forwarded to the City Council with a recommendation for adoption.

Chair Solomonson noted that he did not reference this item as a public hearing in the agenda and asked if the agenda should be changed. City Attorney Kelly agreed the agenda should be amended to reflect this item as a public hearing. He added that the notice for the public hearing was proper.

Chair Solomonson opened the public hearing. There were no public comments or questions.

MOTION: by Commissioner Proud, seconded by Commissioner Ferrington to close the public hearing.

VOTE: Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

Commissioner Proud suggested the word "growth" and "growth height" be eliminated and that only the term "height" be used in each case that the two terms are referenced in order not to create ambiguity.

Chair Solomonson asked if the term "growth" is from state statute language. Ms. Castle answered, no, and she could not find use of the term in the horticulture industry.

Commissioner McCool stated that in Section 211.060 and 210.020 usage of the word "growth" is a different meaning. He would not propose eliminating the word "growth" but only eliminating it when it is used in the term "growth height."

Commissioner Proud suggested tabling this matter to the next meeting to give staff time to make sure the wording is consistent.

Commissioner McCool responded that the specified change could be stated in the motion, as the Commission is not granting approval but forwarding it to the City Council.

MOTION: by Commissioner Proud, seconded by Commissioner Peterson to adopt Ordinance # approving the text amendment to Chapter 200, Development Code, including Section 210, Nuisances and Section 211, Property Maintenance, related to tall grass and weeds with the provision that the word “growth” is removed when used in the term “growth height.”

The recommendation is based on the following finding:

1. The proposed text change clarifies the City’s code enforcement practice relating to tall grass and weeds and supports neighborhood preservation efforts.

VOTE: Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

MISCELLANEOUS

City Council Assignments

Commissioners McCool and Doan will respectively attend the February 2, 2015 and February 17, 2015 City Council meetings.

2015 Planning Commission Chair and Vice Chair

City Planner Castle reported that at the City Council’s January 5, 2015 meeting, Chair Solomonson was reappointed as Chair and Commissioner McCool as Vice Chair.

Workshop

Chair Solomonson noted that the Planning Commission will hold a workshop meeting at 6:00 p.m. immediately prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting on February 24, 2015.

Joint Workshop

Chair Solomonson stated that the Planning Commission will meet in a joint workshop with the City Council to review accessory structure regulations on February 9, 2015.

Workshop

The workshop after this meeting will focus discussion on building heights.

This was Commissioner Proud's last meeting. Commissioners thanked him for his 17 long years of service. He has been a valued member who has offered good insight which has improved the Commission's work.

Commissioner Thompson thanked Commissioner Proud for all the help he has given her as a new member to the Commission. His experience and knowledge are really appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Commissioner Ferrington, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

VOTE: Ayes - 6 Nays - 0

ATTEST:

Kathleen Castle
City Planner