

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Kopitzke called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM
2. **ROLL CALL** – Present: Chair Kris Kopitzke, Kuchen Hale, Doug Parker, Sally Doherty, Roger Bowman, Scott Patten, Christian Dawson & Justin Sykora. Absent was James Langan.
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Council member Wroblewski, City Administrator Ron Moore
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** –
Motion/Second Doherty/ Bowman To approve the agenda for the August 3, 2020 Planning Commission meeting. Roll call: all aye, passed 7-0.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –
A. July 6, 2020
Motion/Second Parker/Sykora To approve minutes of the July 6, 2020 Planning Commission meeting.
Roll call: all aye, Passed 7-0.

Commissioner Hale joined the meeting at 7:05.

5. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS** - None

6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** – none

7. **NEW BUSINESS** –

A. Meetings & focus during COVID pandemic

Doherty noted that the messaging on the city website indicates that the focus is on critical business. If we are now fully operating, or somewhere in between we should communicate that.

Hale stated that she has heard from residents that the city should be focusing on essentials only.

Chair Kopitzke stated that the Commission will be meeting like this for a while (via Zoom), and there are items that cannot be put off.

The Commission recommended to the city council that it is fully using the Zoom meeting format, and is prepared to address all issues that are brought to the Commission. The Commission also suggested that the City’s messaging on the City website, in the City Newsletter and on social media should clearly reflect that the City is ready and able to carry on with City business.

8. **OLD BUSINESS** –

A. Ordinance amendment regarding discharge of firearms and public nuisance noises

Administrator Moore stated that he has received a few comments received so far. Most were from long term residents who are hunters but do not shoot on their property. They have noticed more prolonged shooting lately, shooting after dusk, less noise from hunting and more from recreational shooting. Suggestions were to find a balance between reasonable shooting and quiet time, limiting caliber of guns number of rounds.

Chair Kopitzke stated that a public hearing will be held next month, with action at the council meeting.

Bowman suggested a limit on number of rounds per property on given day/period of time from any source. Rules vary for skeet or any other. Rules should be the same, not vary for skeet or any other shooting.

Chair Kopitzke stated that limiting the number of shots in period of time, as measured at neighboring lot would eliminate lot size & zoning.

Hale stated that a shooting area that is properly set up with a berm is safer (permanent range) and should not be considered negative.

Sykora agreed that there should not be penalty for people who set it up safely. If charging a fee for people to come there, then it is a range.

Parker had concerns about the distance some of the ammunition can travel and caliber that can be shot.

56 Kopitzke pointed out that the State definition of a gun range does not include commercial criteria, but rather
57 addresses the primary use of the property.

58 Further discussion was held with the following points identified:

- 59 • The same rules should apply to all firearms discharge.
- 60 • Two key goals are safety and noise abatement
- 61 • From a safety standpoint, a permanent shooting range with a proper backstop is safer than
62 shooting without proper safety precautions
- 63 • Noise abatement could include time limits, frequency of shooting, limits on number of rounds
64 and notification to neighbors
- 65 • It could be difficult to document the noise and where it is coming from
- 66 • The City Attorney has advised that a video of the noise taken with a cell phone would be
67 acceptable documentation
- 68 • The regulations should be focused on addressing repetitive, persistent shooting multiple times
69 per week
- 70 • Shooting should not be allowed two days in a row on the same property
- 71 • New regulations should have a sunset clause to encourage continuing discussion as well as
72 evaluation of the new regulations

73
74 **Motion/Second Doherty/Hale to recommended a temporary ordinance amendment that sunsets on**
75 **March 1, 2021 and declares the following to be nuisances affecting the public health and safety (in**
76 **Section 12-207. Miscellaneous nuisances): Firearms discharged on a property for more than 2 hours**
77 **per day, firearms discharged on a property more than two days per week, firearms discharged on a**
78 **property two days in a row.**

79 **Roll Call: 5 Aye; 3 Nay (Dawson, Parker, Bowman) Passed 5-3.**

80
81 Next Planning Commission (September) meeting will be held on August 31 due to Labor Day.

82
83
84 B. Update on City Council actions

85 Council member Wroblewski provided a summary of the July City Council meeting.

86
87 **9. ADJOURN**

88 **Motion/Second Sykora/Parker To adjourn. Roll call: all aye, Passed 8-0 .**

89 Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

90
91
92
93
94 Respectfully submitted by:

95
96 JY

97 Julie Yoho, City Clerk

98
99
100 **To be approved on August 31, 2020 as (check one): Presented: x or Amended: _____**
101
102