



Shakopee Planning Commission

Meeting

Minutes

October 7, 2021

7:00 PM

City Hall, 485 Gorman St.

1. Roll Call

Chair Robbins called the meeting to order.

Commissioners present: Josh Forsythe, Jesse Lara, Daniel Olson, Noreen Reding, Kent Robbins

City staff present: Director of Planning & Development Michael Kerski

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Call for Notarized Affidavits, Proof of Neighborhood Meeting and Sign in Sheet for appropriate Public Hearing

None.

4. Recognition by Planning Commission of Interested Citizens

No one responded.

5. Consent Business - (All items listed in this section are anticipated to be routine. After a discussion by the Chair there will be an opportunity for members of the Commission to remove any items from the consent agenda for individual discussion. Those items removed will be considered following the public hearing portion of the agenda. Items remaining on the Consent Agenda will not be discussed and will be approved in one motion.)

Mr. Robbins requested that item 5B get pulled off the Consent Business, and Mr. Kerski did so.

A. Vacation of Public Drainage and Utility Easement as dedicated within Outlot C, Summerland Place First Addition

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to approve item 5A, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Olson and the motion passed.

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C. Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to approve item 5C, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Olson and the motion passed.

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B. Request for Exception Pursuant to City Code Section 90.51C.2 (a)

Mr. Kerski explained that this was a request by Comcast for an exception by the city to add cables overhead, rather than underground as required by the city. In their letter for this exception request, they cite cost as one of the main reasons for this. Mr. Kerski stated that the city requires any new development to go underground not only for aesthetic reasons, but for public safety.

Mr. Forsythe stated that Comcast notes in their letter that there are existing aerial lines in the area and asked if they were requesting to add to the existing cable. Mr. Kerski confirmed that this was the case and added that if the city were to grant this exception, everyone would keep doing this and the city would like everyone off the poles and be underground. Mr. Forsythe asked if the city had any issue with how full the conduit was getting, and Mr. Kerski explained this in detail. Mr. Forsythe asked if the city had any incentives for companies to go underground and Mr. Kerski also explained this in detail.

Mr. Olson asked if Comcast would incur any cost in the future if the lines were buried later and Mr. Kerski answered that they would not. Mr. Olson asked about the cost to Comcast and if anyone in the city had looked at this estimate and Mr. Kerski answered that this was something the engineering department would look at and he had not heard from them, one way or another.

Ms. Reding asked if cable outages would be more common if the cable was added overhead and Mr. Kerski explained this in detail.

Mr. Lara stated that he supported Comcast doing this underground.

Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion of a negative recommendation to the City Council regarding the Exception request, based on City Engineering's findings, seconded by Commissioner Noreen Reding and the motion passed.

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6. General Business

A. PUBLIC HEARING - Section 151.007 & 151.110 Related to Bluffs and Performance Standards; & Design Criteria for Chapter 151

Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion to open the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Jesse Lara and the motion passed.

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Mr. Kerski presented the staff report.

Mr. Robbins asked if city staff would consider this housekeeping, and Mr. Kerski answered yes, as well as clarification on some items. Mr. Robbins asked for clarification on threshold triggers and Mr. Kerski did so.

Mr. Forsythe asked if all of Shakopee was in the Minnesota watershed district and Mr. Kerski explained this in detail. Mr. Forsythe asked that if the city was in control of this, would it speed up approvals and Mr. Kerski answered yes and explained this in detail.

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Olson and the motion passed.

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Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion of a positive recommendation to the City Council for adoption of Ordinance No. O2021-022 and O2021-023, and Resolution No. R2021-132, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Olson and the motion passed.

7. Other Business

Mr. Kerski stated that the city switched over to new permitting software on October 1, 2021.

8. Adjourn to Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm, seconded by Commissioner Josh Forsythe and the motion passed.

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