

**TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
August 5, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

The Planning Commission of the Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia met in the Council Chambers of the Rocky Mount Municipal Building, located at 345 Donald Avenue, Rocky Mount, Virginia, at 6:00 p.m. on August 5, 2020, for its regular monthly meeting with Madame Chair Janet Stockton presiding.

Commission Members Present:

- Janet Stockton, Chair
- Member Ina Clements
- Member Bud Blanchard
- Member John Tiggle
- Member Derwin Hall
- Vice Chairman John Speidel joined the meeting via conference phone

Commission Members Absent:

- Member Jerry Greer

Staff Members Present:

- Town Planner, Jessica H. Heckman
- Planning Commission Clerk, Cherie Compton
- Cultural & Economic Development Director, Beth Simms

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Additions or Corrections: None at this time

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Commission Member Ina Clements

Second: Commission Member John Tiggle

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

## **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Let the record show that prior to the meeting, the Planning Commission received the following draft minutes for review and consideration of approval:

### **July 7, 2020-Regular Meeting Minutes**

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve minutes as presented

Motion By: Commission Member John Tiggle

Second: Commission Member Ina Clements

Action: Approved by unanimous vote of members present

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Town Planner Jessica Heckman advised the commission that staff had sent out a survey to residents of Old Fort Road regarding on-street parking. The survey asked the residents to mark the statement that best reflected their stance regarding on-street parking, or to use the space provided to voice any recommendation they may have for the on-street parking. They could choose either, I have no issues or concerns with the on-street parking, or they had concerns and would like to help in finding a resolution. The survey and letter were used to make contact due to the COVID19 situation and the letter stated that there would be public hearings and further notification before any decision was to be made. Thirty surveys were mailed with the due date of August 4, 2020. The town received nine responses as of the meeting date, all of which had no concerns except for two. The two concerns were that one resident has had to call several times for the contractors equipment setting in the cul-de-sac making it hard to use for large vehicles to turn around, and vehicles parking the wrong direction and the other concern was you have to weave in and out of the parked vehicles making it hard to see people walking especially small children. The previous recommendation was kicked back to Planning Commission to review further and decide if a change needed to be made at this point or to leave as is to a further date. The consensus was to leave it as is and will revisit at a later date if needed.

## **COMMISSIONER CONCERNS**

Member Ina Clements asked about Parkers Car Lot off 220. Jessica Heckman informed the board that letters have been sent and they came back as vacant and community development is still researching the owners to have something done. An open discussion ensued.

## **STAFF UPDATES**

Town Planner Jessica Heckman gave an update on:

- the Angle Bridge rehab delay.
- She informed the board that she had sent a nuisance letter to Philip Bain about the windows from the 325 Franklin Street building informing him of abatement if a plan wasn't submitted within 30 days letting the Town know of any delays with the repairs.
- 35 applicants to date for the Reset Rocky Mount Program
- Vacant buildings-helping property owners with these with possible window decals with ideas that the building could be used for
- Possible prospect for the Hardees building
- Old gas station beside the Hub is seems to be moving forward
- Train Depot will not be opening this year, the railroad plans to use it for office space as Angle Bridge park goes underway, also looking for quotes to paint the exterior
- Warren Street Festival is still on but is a one day event and were notified that they have to maintain any governors orders that are issued.
- Fidelity building sold
- New car wash broke ground beside Kroger gas station

## **Business for Upcoming Months**

Commission members and staff discussed potential business for upcoming months, chair Janet Stockton asked about looking into cleaning up the town making it look more attractive to businesses coming into town also possibly doing incentives for opening. Jessica informed members that is a big part of what Economic Development Coordinator Beth Simms has been working on.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to Adjourn By: Commission Member Derwin Hall

Second: Commission Member Ina Clements

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Time of Adjournment: 6:55 p.m.

---

Janet Stockton, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

---

Cherie Compton, Clerk