

**TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 4, 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 November 4, 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 Jerry Greer
- Member Derwin Hall
- Vice Chairman John Speidel joined the meeting via conference phone

Staff Members Present:

- Town Planner, Jessica H. Heckman
- Assistant Town Manager, Mark Moore
- Planning Commission Clerk, Cherie Compton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Member Ina Clements

Second: Member Bud Blanchard

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:

October 6, 2020-Regular Meeting Minutes

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve minutes as presented

Motion By: Member John Tiggle

Second: Member Ina Clements

Action: Approved by unanimous vote of members present

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Town Manager Mark Moore introduced himself and gave background on some of his previous positions.

Town Planner Jessica Heckman presented the priority projects list for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Members asked about any progress that may have been from the previous list, and other things that could possibly be added. Mark Moore and Jessica Heckman explained the various lists for economic development and transportation planning for different organizations.

Chairman Stockton asked for information relative to crosswalks in town, specifically the one at the top of Tanyard. Ms. Heckman advised there were no simple solutions to that intersection but advised that the town contracted engineering firm Thomas and Litton had recommended a possible four-way stop for pedestrian traffic which would be a major project for the future. Members commented that they have observed traffic not stopping for the existing crosswalks and asked why the signs that were in the middle of the crosswalk were not there any longer. Ms. Heckman advised that the signs were destroyed multiple times and weren't cost effective to put back continually per conversations she had with the public works superintendent. Members asked staff to readdress crosswalk signage with public works to improve pedestrian safety throughout town.

Motion: To recommend that Town Council approve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Priority Projects list

Motion By: Member Jerry Greer

Second: Member John Tiggle

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

OLD BUSINESS

Town Planner Jessica Heckman updated members on progress on games of skill. She obtained a list from the Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Authority of all the games of skill that had been registered with them. July of this year all games had to be registered, could not add anymore to the facility, they must pay \$1,200.00 per machine per month.

Some of the surrounding localities require a special use permit. There is a follow up meeting with Town Attorney John Boitnott on how the Town will handle these situations.

COMMISSIONER CONCERNS

Member Ina Clements asked about the intersection at McDonalds, Jessica informed them they were doing a combination of things from the grid smart stop lights and putting new fiber lines in. Member Jerry Greer asked about lighting and/ or upgrades to the

shopping center located at the movie theatre. Jessica let them know that she and other staff have reached out to the owner and offered couple different ideas, but nothing had been updated at this time, but Economic Development Director was working on a project that may help address the issues. An open discussion ensued.

STAFF UPDATES

Town Planner Jessica Heckman gave an update on the use of Escribe at future meetings for viewing their packets for meetings after staff updates the tablets. Also gave an update that the Angle Bridge progress was moving along as planned.

Business for Upcoming Months

- Members asked for an update on crosswalks
- Members asked to obtain copies of the project lists for VDOT, CEDS and WPPDC

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Stockton asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn By: Member Ina Clements

Second: Member Jerry Greer

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Time of Adjournment: 6:49 p.m.

Janet Stockton, Chairman

ATTEST:

Cherie Compton, Clerk