

City of Empire Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2023

The City of Empire Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Jared Sachs at 8:00 PM.

Present were: Jared Sachs, Doug Clark, Gina Maunu, Julie Stulz, Elizabeth Haas, Jenni Faulkner, Charles Seipel-Teng, and Town Board Supervisor Marla Vagts.

Members of the Planning Commission and staff introduced themselves.

Jenni Faulkner presented information on planning and zoning responsibilities and the process that the City of Empire follows when considering zoning related items. Also presented was information making motions and a list of terms related to planning. It was noted that the Planning Commission initially reviews a number of draft ordinances, not just zoning related ordinances.

The Planning Commission reviewed the zoning ordinance, zoning map and 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Commission discussed some goals that the Commission may want to work on going forward. Seipel-Teng noted that planning for land use and public spaces in the northwest corner of the City and determining what parts of the City make sense for PUD development has been discussed in the past. Jared Sachs noted that some additional goals include purchasing land for a water tower in the northwest corner of the City, working with the Watt Munisotaram to make sure they promote that they are in the City of Empire, reevaluating the mineral extraction overlay district, working with commercial entities to get a grocery store in the area, reassessing the inventory of rural residential building rights, and consider amendments to the zoning classification for commercial use.

The Planning Commission reviewed a proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment from the City of Farmington to rezone property from Park/Open Space to Low Density Residential. Julie Stulz made a motion to recommend “no comment” on the proposed comprehensive plan amendment from the City of Farmington. Doug Clark seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Doug Clark made a motion to adjourn. Elizabeth Haas seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.