

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION - MEETING
August 12, 2020
6:30 – 8:03 p.m.

VIRTUALLY - ZOOM

PRESIDING: Mayor Lynn Ewing

COUNCIL PRESENT: Lynn Ewing, Tom Troutman, Susan Wright, Jon Helquist, and Mike Foreaker

COUNCIL ABSENT: Carol Beatty, One Vacancy

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Kevin Lewis, Recorder(s) DeOra Patton, Christine Kurtz, Attorney Paul Sumner, City Planner(s) Dan Meader and Kirk Fatland

VISITORS PRESENT: Ralph Wimmer

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ewing at 6:30 p.m. Roll call of Council and staff was conducted by Recorder Kurtz. Mayor Ewing led council and audience in Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL DELIBERATION - ON ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING OPERATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SHORT TERM RENTALS IN THE CITY, ESTABLISHING A PERMITTING PROCEDURE AND A PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH VIOLATIONS TO THIS ORDINANCE: Mayor Ewing opened with a brief history of the work performed to date. He opened Council deliberation. He called for Staff Reports. Recorder Kurtz presented and answered Councilor questions on a financial analysis report. Attorney Sumner presented and answered Councilor questions on two additional clauses he recommended be added to the Ordinance text. Planner Meader reviewed his analysis showing that 10 to 12 homes within the three commercial zones have the required parking, making parking the key criteria to qualify for licensure.

The Council discussed the following:

- Building rules within Recreation Commercial (RC) Zone for empty lots
- Zone change process and rules, Spot Zoning
- Applying a time limit to approve rentals on a trial basis
- Approving the rules and regulations for future use

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- Community impact
- Are rules retroactive and can they be applied to illegally operating rentals
- Change the rules to specify propane only for use in outdoor fire pits.
- Fire safety concerns
- Limiting short term rentals to the RC zone, to prevent conflict with the City's intent to create more business frontage within the new Commercial Residential Transition (CRT) Zone and the downtown core.

It was the consensus of Council to accept the Ordinance Establishing Operational Rules & Regulations for Short Term Rentals in the City, Establishing a Permitting Procedure and a Procedure for Dealing with Violations as written with three modifications:

- Add "propane" to fire pit clause
- Add a "Savings Clause" and "Repeal of Conflicting Ordinance Provision"
- Change from "within the three commercial zones of the City" to "within one or more land use planning zones of the City"

COUNCIL DELIBERATION – ON ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW SHORT TERM RENTALS IN THE COMMERCIAL ZONES OF THE CITY AND MAKING OTHER ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THAT REVISION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY:

Councilor Wright motioned to continue both hearings to the next regularly scheduled meeting on August 26th 2020 at 6:30 PM. Councilor Helquist Seconded. Motion passed 5 to 0 (Ayes: Ewing, Troutman, Wright, Helquist, Foreaker; Nays: none).

DISCUSSION – COUNCIL GOAL SETTING & COMMUNITY VISIONING PLAN:

Council discussed ideas for how to create community engagement in the visioning process. Planner Fatland presented a list of ideas including setting up a kiosk in Kaiser Park, utilizing online surveys, creating a scavenger hunt celebrating the City's accomplishments, and ways to engage children. Councilor Wright suggested utilizing Covid grant funds to set up technology to facilitate participation of community members who want assistance. Councilor Helquist suggested scheduling in November. Councilor Foraker suggested creating an online group that the community can interact with. Guest, Ralph Wimmer suggested a suggestion drop box in Kaiser Park. Mayor formed a group to set a date and get organized.

The Mid Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) is seeking two board members from the Maupin area. Councilor Foraker would like to schedule a dialogue between Council and City Manager, Kevin Lewis, to set some administrative goals for the year.

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ADJOURN. Mayor Ewing adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Christine A. Kurtz, Recorder

SIGNED: _____
Lynn Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Christine A. Kurtz, Recorder