

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

JANUARY 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chairman Tim McCarthy. Committee members present were Cory Kuhlman, Tim McCarthy, and Barry VanHoozen. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Laura Alkire, Law Director, Brody Walters, Planning and Zoning Administrator, and Mark Easterling, Deputy Planning and Zoning Administrator.

LAND USE PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Walters said that the City has been in discussions on doing a land use plan update for almost two years. He said that some of the groundwork has been done by the Ohio University Extension Office and the Purdue Tipping Point Planning Program, which was a free service with an estimated value of \$40,000. He said that an RFP was sent out for Phase One of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, which establishes goals and vision for the next twenty years. The second phase will take a comprehensive look at the Planning and Zoning Code so it is written to help achieve those goals and vision.

Mr. Walters stated that two responses were received from the RFP, and both are from qualified firms. An internal committee was formed to review the proposals, and it was fairly unanimous that OHM was the more qualified group. Included in OHM's proposal were different options that the City could include. One scenario includes community engagement strategies utilized by OHM that would include a statistically valid survey. This add on would cost \$20,000 in addition to the \$60,000 fee, but Mr. Walters said that he feels it would provide validity to the plan because it would give feedback on where the public is at and what they want.

The Committee agreed that the survey was a good idea, but they requested more specific information on how the survey would be done. Mr. McCarthy asked that both proposals be sent to all Council members. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the agreement with OHM for \$80,000 subject to some follow-up information regarding the survey.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. McCarthy asked that the topic of hens be on next month's agenda and that the ordinance that was prepared a couple of years ago that permits the raising of hens within the City be provided.

Ms. Alkire requested an Executive Session to discuss imminent or pending litigation. Mr. McCarthy moved to go into Executive Session to discuss imminent or pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. VanHoozen. The Committee went into Executive Session at 5:59 p.m. They returned from Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Walters stated that he received an email regarding the LED tubing at RiverPlace. The tubing is now swagged and is flashing purple, green, and white. This matter was discussed at a previous meeting and Dave Kienzle, property owner, said that the lighting was for holidays. Mr. Walters said that it appears he has not held true to that. Ms. Kabat suggested that the Law Director contact him with minutes from the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy G. McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim McCarthy, Chairman
Planning & Zoning Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.