

MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
REGULAR PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 18, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Voting Members: Jim Freid, Ben Sticha, Dave Dols, and John Duban

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Council Representative Scott Pelava and Joe Kodada

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dols called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Large Meeting Room at the Lonsdale Public Library, 1006 Birch Street NE.

2. AGENDA

Dols asked if anyone had any additions or deletions to the agenda.

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Sticha to approve the agenda as presented.
Vote for: Freid, Dols, Duban, and Sticha; Against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Freid and seconded by Duban to approve the Minutes from the May 16, 2013 Planning Commission. Vote for: Freid, Dols, Duban, and Sticha; Against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. City Updates

• *Park Projects*

Baker gave an update on on-going park projects, including the Downtown Plaza, Sticha Park, and Kalina Park while the Planning Commissioners reviewed updated project pictures.

- *Community Development*
Baker provided an update on the Lonsdale Elementary School Addition Project, the Lonsdale Business Park Project, and the EDA's review of Comp Plan Chapter 6, Economic Development. The Commissioners reviewed the latest plans for the Lonsdale Business Park along with recent pictures of the on-going site grading work.
 - *City / City Council*
Baker noted that the City Council was meeting at the same time as the Planning Commission over at City Hall. He said that the Council was starting their initial discussions concerning the 2014 Budget. Baker mentioned that City elections will be held in November, with the mayor and two councilmembers up for reelection this year. Baker also noted that the Police Reserve Program was currently being reestablished by Lonsdale Police Department.
- b. Continue Reviewing Goals & Strategies from the 2025 Comprehensive Plan
The Planning Commission continued their review of the Comprehensive Plan by looking at Chapter 9, Community Facilities and Services. Baker said that the City Engineer will be present at the next meeting to discuss the chapters regarding utility infrastructure and transportation. Baker read through the plans and information for local schools, the fire hall, the police station, city hall, the liquor store, and communications.
- c. Review Possible Ordinance Updates/Amendments
The Planning Commission reviewed two possible ordinance amendment items: 1) alternative energy and 2) car ports. The Commission reviewed a recent court case dispute and pictures from Orono, MN concerning a unique wind turbine that was erected along a Lake Minnetonka neighborhood. The Commissioners also reviewed relevant ordinance language in the Lonsdale City Code compared to an ordinance section specifically focused on alternative energy. The ordinance example referenced wind energy systems, solar energy systems, and ground source heat pumps. Baker noted that wood and corn burning stoves were not included in the ordinance example, but he said that the stoves could be included in any potential ordinance update. The Planning Commissioners agreed that the City should create an alternative energy ordinance this fall. The Commissioners also discussed smoke and chimney/stack height issues. They also mentioned that used oil for heating purpose could be included in the discussion.

The Commissioners reviewed pictures of a car port recently erected in town. They also reviewed existing regulations for accessory structures. Baker said that current City regulations do not specifically reference temporary car ports, and he suggested that the City may want to update the Code to specifically include such items. The Planning Commission agreed, and they said that enclosed pods and lean-to structures should also be referenced.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- Duban mentioned that the City should explore sign options that promote the downtown businesses. He also suggested that a roundabout be installed at Co Rd 4 and T.H. 19.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Freid and seconded by Duban to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Freid, Dols, Duban, and Sticha; Against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner