

**BELLE PLAINE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 10 2020**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Cauley led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. Roll Call.

The Planning and Zoning Commission met in Regular Session on Monday, August 10, 2020 at City Hall 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Chair Cauley called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with Commissioners Ashton Pankonin, Lee Petersen, Ryan Herrmann and Omni Kiecker present. Commissioner Sarah Duklet was not present.

Also present were Community Development Director Smith Strack and Council Liaison Chard.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Commissioner Pankonin, second by Commissioner Kiecker, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 3.1. Regular Session Minutes of July 13, 2020.

MOTION by Commissioner Pankonin, second by Commissioner Kiecker, to approve the Regular Session Minutes of July 13, 2020. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. RECOGNITION OF INVOLVED CITIZENS.

*Persons may make statements to the Planning Commission pertaining to items **not** on the agenda. Maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. No official action will be taken.*

Resident Joe Witt spoke to the Commission regarding his swimming pool. Witt explained his feeling that the rules on placing the pools should be handed out with the rental of the pool meters. Witt also explained his alley is in need of repairs. Commissioner Cauley explained staff will make note of the concerns. Cauley suggested Witt work with staff next year before placement of his pool.

MOTION by Commissioner Kiecker, second by Commissioner Pankonin, to close the Recognition of Involved Citizens at 6:40 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.

6. BUSINESS.

6.1. Discussion: Rear-loading garage setbacks.

Community Development Director Smith Strack explained code requires rear-loading structures be setback 15 feet from the rear lot line. Smith Strack noted all other structures have a rear-yard setback of five feet noting staff have been requiring structures accessed from an alley to be setback 15 feet. Smith Strack explained several questions pertaining to side-loading garage setback have been received and requests input. Smith Strack provided some pictures on the projector.

Council Liaison Chard explained he has done the five feet from the corner and five feet from the alley. Chard opined allowing for more space allows the property owner to start storing additional items in that area and prefers the five-foot side entry.

Commissioner Herrmann inquired if code read 15 feet from the alley. Community Development Director Smith Strack explained code reads 15 feet with no allowances. Commissioner Pankonin opined five feet for side entry garages works and noted he lives across from one. Pankonin suggests deeper setback for alley facing garage entries suggesting 20 feet. Commissioner Herrmann explained Minneapolis has many side entry garages and noted how clean the allies look. Commissioner Cauley explained she has no preference as long as snow removal is not an issue.

It was the consensus of the committee for a code amendment with the preference for rear loading garages with a 20 foot setback and side loading garages with a 5 foot setback. The discussion and code suggestions will be reviewed at a future City Council Work Session.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

7.1. Commissioner Comments.

No comments were made.

7.2. Director's Report.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the Directors Report noting the residential and business relief grants.

7.3. Upcoming Meetings.

1. Next Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Monday September 14, 2020.

The Commissioners were reminded of the next scheduled meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION by Commissioner Kiecker, second by Commissioner Petersen, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary