

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

January 9, 2020

6:30 PM

I. OPEN HOUSE – UGA SWAP

1. Amy and Ryan are present to explain the UGA Swap that has been proposed. Amy discusses that there is current land in the Town's UGA that is wetland that stops the Town from being able to hit the growth target set forth by the county. The wetland is to the North West of city limits. It is being proposed that this wetland is swapped out for land to the north of town off of Highway 530 and a small acreage of land to the south of the Town off of the Mountain Loop Highway. The acreage that is taken out must be equivalent in acreage and zoning for what is proposed to be brought in. There is also the opportunity for those who own land that is brought into the UGA to be able to connect to the Town water system.
2. George was able to map the wetland that is north west of the Town.
3. The audience asks for clarification on some of the property that is currently in the wetland. The wetland is owned by the DNR and the Sauk Suiattle Tribe. The chances of these lands being developed, other than the fact that it is wetland, is unknown considering that it is owned by these two entities.
4. Jessica asks Amy to explain why the swap is going to help with the UGA Growth numbers and how it would affect the Town. It is known that the lands currently in the UGA are undevelopable but the area that is proposed to be brought in can be developed and help the Town reach its goals.
5. Is there any reason the county wouldn't accept this? It is possible that they would not agree with the Whitehorse park, if the park is reclassified.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Rob calls the January 9, 2020 Planning Commission to order at 6:34 PM

III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Bridget motions to approve the November 7, 2019 meeting minutes. Jessica seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS

1. President Nominations

- i. It is discussed that
- ii. Rob motions to approve Jessica for President. Bridget seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Vice President Nominations

- i. Bridget motions to approve George for Vice President. Rob seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. UGA

- i. The next steps would be coming back with the proposed zoning and land use. The Council and Planning will be briefed next month, and the Planning hearing will be in March.

2. Storm Water Drainage Plan – Jessica

- i. Jessica has discussed this with her boss who is helping her on this project, and is curious if there is an engineer that the Town has that could review the code? No there isn't. But the

Town can contract for individual projects. Jessica would like someone who is well versed in drainage code and would be able to work the Planning Commission to set it up how they want that code written. Hiring an engineer would put this process on hold for the moment.

- ii. Kelli asks if there is anyway that for now, the code could reference another code? The issue is that the Town code already references the county code and a few other codes, but it still needs to be cleaned up.

3. RCO – Darrington Parks and Recreation Plan – Due March 1, 2020 Bridgett

- i. Bridgett made the corrections that were given to her. She will send the those changes to Dianne to disperse to the other Planning members. This will allow them to review it for the next meeting for approval and recommendation to council.

VI. Visitors

- 1. Oak is present to discuss the Sauk River Properties off Alvord, Darrington Sauk River Park. Glacier Peak institute would like to start work on developing the park. They would like to start developing a trail system. The initial steps would be to remove some of the invasive species and maintaining the current trail system. There is an issue with the slough that comes off the river creates an island effect. There is a parking plan that is in place.

- i. Bridgett asks if most of the trails are on what has been separated by the slough? Yes, they are.
- ii. There are already discussions going on with the current parties involved about a bridge being placed over the slough and providing access to the river.
- iii. Glacier Peak Institute is hoping to have a work party on the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend in February.
- iv. Oak is hoping to support from the Planning Commission to move forward with the project.
- v. Bridgett suggest that a trail is made that goes along the slough, giving better access from Seeman and/or Petty.
- vi. The Planning Commission would like to see a sign put in place once the park is ready to open.
- vii. Jessica asks if the Glacier Peak Institute will be the ones looking for funding and writing grants to fund this project that is on Town Property? Yes, they will be pursuing funding and possibly working with the Town on grant writing for the project.
- viii. Rob makes a motion to support the Darrington Sauk River Park plan. Jessica seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

VII. ADJOURN

Jessica adjourns the January 9, 2020 Meeting at 7:06 PM

Jessica Coleman, Chair

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk-Treasurer