

City of Decorah
Planning and Zoning Commission
August 10, 2020 – 7:00pm
Meeting Minutes

Electronic meeting pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8 – In circumstances where such a meeting is impossible or impractical due to concerns about COVID-19 and social distancing for the safety of commission members and the public.

In support of Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' proclamation declaring a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency in Iowa, the current COVID-19 situation makes it "impossible and impractical" to meet in one location. Due to this the Decorah City Hall was partially closed to the public for the August 10, 2020 Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. Seating was limited to ensure distancing. The public was invited to participate via electronic means.

Members present included: Nathan Thompson, Jared Essa, Tony Clarke, Marla Klocke, and Joel Zook.

Absent: Ryan Delaney

There is one seat vacant on the commission effective July 21, 2020

Others present: Various citizens logged into the Zoom platform.

Consider approval of minutes from the July 13, 2020 regular meeting

Motion by Essa and second by Klocke to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2020 regular meeting.

Roll call vote: Ayes, unanimous.

Motion passed.

Consider a Site Plan Review re: Goose Island Drive, *Decorah Community Schools – Softball Complex Renovations*

City Engineer Jeremy Brill provided a project overview and reviewed staff notes and details. Project Architect, Ted Friesner was also in attendance and provided an overview.

In general discussion by the Commission, there was consensus that the project is needed and these would be worthy improvements for the community.

Motion by Clarke and second by Thompson to recommend approval of the site plan for the Decorah Community Schools for a softball complex renovation project.

Roll call vote: Ayes, unanimous.

Motion passed.

Consider C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 709 Water Street, *ArtHaus – paint murals on North and East sides*

Shannon Dallenbach Durbin, Matthew Havran, and Zach Row-Hyveld were present to speak about the proposed mural on the side of the ArtHaus building.

Havran discussed the project and provided an interpretation of the mural. Havran and Row-Hyveld provided certain technical details and maintenance plans going forward.

Klocke asked about the adhesion of paint and maintenance, she also requested that the topic of murals be placed on an upcoming agenda so the commission and council will have some guidance to refer to as she believed this application will set a precedent for future mural applications.

Thompson noted a splash of color would liven up an otherwise drab area and may lead to more innovative murals to brighten up areas especially alley facing portions of buildings.

Clarke mentioned that to convey branding and image, entities should have latitude in choice of color palette even in cases similar to this application. He cited a national retailer who had been denied by City Council on spurious grounds to change exterior colors.

Motion by Essa and second by Klocke to recommend approval of the installation of a mural on the north and east sides of the building at 107 West Broadway Street.

Roll call vote: Ayes, unanimous.

Motion passed.

Consider **Resolution No. 2020 - 08**, Massman Addition, Phase III

Bril provided project background and details relevant to consideration of the final plat for Phase III. Since this is part of a larger residential subdivision, there were no additional discussion points amongst commission members.

Motion by Klocke and second by Thompson to recommend approval of the final plat of Massman Addition, Phase III.

Roll call vote: Ayes, unanimous.

Motion passed.

As Zoning Administrator Bird was not in attendance for the meeting, Chair Clarke entertained a motion to table the remaining discussion items until the September meeting.

Discussion and possible action on code amendment; shipping containers ordinance

Discussion and possible action on code amendment; loading and parking spaces ordinance amendments

Discussion and possible action on code amendment; residential definitions, dwellings, room houses, boarding houses

Discussion and possible action on Chapter 17.140 – Floodplain Management Ordinance
17.120 – F-1 Floodplain District (*either or both sections – FEMA recommendations*)

Other business

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,



Chad A. Bird
City Manager
Zoning Administrator