

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
THURSDAY, January 10, 2008
7:00P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Members Present: Chairman Turnroth, Debi Burke, Bob Machnicki, Don Koehler, David Erby, Chuck Koehler, Matt Lillpop, Mark Vandersnick, Bill Groleau, Mayor David Blanton, Richard Downey, Mark Searing – Bldg Inspector, and Sylvia Frey - Secretary. Sandy Henrekin, RFCDC also present.

Members Absent: None

Quorum was met and official business can be conducted.

First item of Business – Welcome New Member-David Erby: Chairman Turnroth introduced David Erby as our newly appointed member to the Plan Commission. David Erby stated he appreciated being chosen to the commission. He stated he has been involved with the local community for over 40 years and is ready for the opportunity to serve the residents in this new capacity. He is retired from the mill and lives with his wife, Pam, in Rock Falls.

Second item of Business – Approval of previous month’s minutes – (12/13/07)

Chairman Turnroth asked for members approval of minutes from 12/13/07. A motion was made by Debi Burke, seconded by Mark Vandersnick to approve these minutes. Motion carried.

Third item of Business – Discussion – City’s Comprehensive Plan: Recently, the Mayor and Richard Downey had attended various seminars sponsored by the University of Illinois regarding comprehensive planning. They were given contact names of individuals who would be willing to help in laying out details and give directions on the process of updating the city’s comprehensive plan, before the city expenses funds to hire a consulting firm. The possibility of establishing an advisory committee of members (council, businesses, community leaders and others) which would review what the city has and help in deciding where the city is going in developing the community for the future. The Mayor is asking the members for their input as to individuals who would be able to help in this endeavor.

Discussion was held pertaining to the recent fire at the Reliant site and how this changes future plans for redevelopment. Mayor has communicated with the EPA regarding any future grants towards cleanup of the site. Unfortunately, the city could be responsible for the entire clean-up of fire damaged areas; the EPA doesn’t have any grants available for this. The fire has partially destroyed one of the few structurally sound buildings which could have been used for riverfront development. Mayor stated the cost will be in the millions and the city is basically starting ‘over’ again. Further details will be forthcoming.

Chairman Turnroth stated that next month’s meeting would be held Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 7:00pm.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Chuck Koehler, seconded by Debi Burke to adjourn meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Turnroth, Chairman