

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
Thursday, December 12, 2013
7:00P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Members Present: Chairman Turnroth, Don Koehler, Chuck Koehler, Alderman Mark Vandersnick, Matt Lillpop, Tony Sosi, Robbin Blackert – City Administrator, Mark Searing – Building Inspector and Sylvia Frey.

Members Absent: Terry Wolf, Matt Lillpop, Debi Burke, Sandy Henrekin – RF CDC and Mayor William Wescott

Public Attendance: Carrie Davis – SVM reporter

Roll Call was made. Quorum was met and official business could be conducted.

First Item of Business – PUBLIC HEARING – Zoning Amendment – Chapter 16 (Medical Cannabis Cultivation Center – Dispensary). Chairman Turnroth asked for a motion to enter into Public Hearing. A motion was made by Chuck Koehler, seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to enter into Public Hearing. Public Hearing was opened at 7:12pm.

Chairman Turnroth asked Sylvia Frey for publication notice (city-wide publication only) compliance. Sylvia stated notice was published November 19, 2013 and is in compliance. No mailings were made as this was a city-wide notice to all residents/business owners throughout the City of Rock Falls.

Chairman Turnroth asked Robbin Blacker to speak on behalf of this amendment. Robbin stated since the State of Illinois has officially adopted the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act, this ordinance will help the city regulate the location of such a center/dispensary. Robbin stated it would be beneficial to any future development interests to maintain this type of business in the industrial park area. Even though federal government prohibits these types of businesses; local and state governments can adopt/regulate these businesses accordingly.

Chairman Turnroth asked the members if they had any questions for Robbin. A question was raised as to the consensus among the members in the event an interested party would be able to establish such a business. The members felt as long as interested parties complied with various state agencies and city codes, these types of businesses could operate accordingly.

Chairman Turnroth asked if there were any objectors and if objectors would present their questions to the petitioner. There were no objectors.

Chairman Turnroth acknowledged Carrie Davis – SVM as she had requested to address the members. She asked for clarification as to the zoning district and the city's regulation of same. Robbin stated this location doesn't deter any interested parties from developing or establishing this type of business.

Chairman Turnroth asked if there were any written communications received. Sylvia Frey stated there were no written communications at this time.

Chairman Turnroth asked if there were any rebuttals to the petitioner. No rebuttals were noted.

Chairman Turnroth asked if there were any rebuttals to the objector. No rebuttals were noted.

Discussion was held among the members and a motion was made accordingly.

A motion was made by Tony Sosi, seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to recommend the approval of the text amendment as presented in Ordinance 2013-2138 (Medical Cannabis Cultivation Center/Dispensary). Roll Call – Vote Tally: Chairman Turnroth (yes), Chuck Koehler (yes), Don Koehler (yes), Alderman Vandersnick (yes), Tony Sosi (yes). Motion carried - 5 (yes).

A motion was made by Don Koehler, seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to close the public hearing. Motion carried. Public Hearing was closed at 7:27pm

Next Item of Business – Approval of previous month's minutes – (6/13/13) Chairman Turnroth asked for the members' approval of minutes for 06/13/13. A motion was made by Don Koehler, seconded by Tony Sosi to approve these minutes. Motion carried - 5 (yes).

Next Item of Business – Discussion – Change in Meeting Time: Mark Searing asked the members for their consideration in changing this commission's meeting time to correlate with all other city committees; whereas, 5:30pm seems to be the designated time period. Members felt this change would not be inconvenient for them. A motion was made by Alderman Vandersnick, seconded by Chuck Koehler to approve changing the meeting time for Planning & Zoning Commission from 7:00pm to 5:30pm for all future meetings. Motion carried – 5(yes).

Next Item of Business – New Member Vacancy: Mark Searing stated the Mayor is still working on filling this vacancy and would appreciate the members input. Several names were presented with the members asking Mark to give their overall consideration of Mike Spain to the Mayor at this time. Mark will relay this information to the Mayor.

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Don Koehler, seconded by Chuck Koehler to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Next meeting is January 9, 2014 at 5:30pm. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Rick Turnroth