

**JOINT MAHTOMEDI CITY COUNCIL
AND PLANNING COMMISSION
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2020**

Mayor Jud Marshall convened the joint City Council and Planning Commission workshop meeting at 5:00 p.m. with the following Council members in attendance: Richard Brainerd, Jeff Ledermann, Jane Schneeweis and Steve Wolgamot. Planning Commission members in attendance were Alex Rogosheske, Dan Soler, Greg Maples, Chantell Knauss, Peter Frank, Tony Chesak and Susan Stewart. Also in attendance were City Administrator Scott Neilson, City Planners Erin Perdu and Hannah Rybak and City Clerk Jerene Rogers.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Council member Brainerd moved and Planning Commission member Stewart seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The agenda was unanimously approved by roll call vote: Yea: Brainerd, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis, Wolgamot, Rogosheske, Soler, Maples, Knauss, Frank, Chesak, Stewart. Nay: None

DISCUSSION – 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CHANGES RELATED TO ZONING CODES

City Planner Erin Perdu said as part of the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan process and its annual strategic planning process, the City has goals that are directly related to the City's zoning and subdivision ordinances. She said these goals are redevelopment and reinvestment, community engagement and sustainability. She stated as part of the strategic direction and priorities the City will review and update city ordinances to support redevelopment that is consistent with city objectives for housing affordability, environmental sustainability, fire safety and neighborhood character. She said the City is committed to building strong relationships with community members for increased awareness, along with input and support for decisions affecting the community's wellbeing. She stated to achieve this the City is committed to educating residents on ordinances, processes, and increase the informal direct interactions with residents and elected officials. She said the City would implement its sustainability plan and strategies which include a review and update to city ordinances for alignment with the Comprehensive Plan's objectives. This includes rooftop solar, sustainable practices, EV charging stations and enforcement for trees and wetlands.

City Council member Brainerd asked if this is a Met Council requirement.

City Planner Perdu said we are required to match the Comprehensive Plan with the Zoning Ordinances. She asked if there should be a unique zoning ordinance for the Briarwood area.

Council member Brainerd said the City owns a lot of property in this area. Many of the lots are non-conforming, so it would make sense that this area have a special zoning ordinance.

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City Council member Ledermann said he likes the low density in this area. He said there is key open space here. He would like to keep this area natural to preserve and enjoy the open space.

City Council member Wolgamot said this would be a good place for a mountain bike trail; it is a beautiful place to ride through.

Planning Commission member Stewart agreed that a trail should go through this area. She said a minimal impact trail with a viewing area would be nice.

City Council member Brainerd stated he likes these ideas, but to remember these lots have septic systems and there are property size requirements.

City Council member Wolgamot said there is not enough affordable housing in Mahtomedi. He stated the area of Century Avenue and Highway 694 would be an ideal area for higher density housing. He suggested maybe working with Habitat for Humanity to accomplish this.

City Council member Ledermann concurs with Council member Wolgamot. He is supportive of high-density housing in this area and feels we should maximize the space.

City Planner Perdu said we have to clean up the language in our existing Zoning codes. She said direction is needed so appropriate updates to the ordinance can be made.

City Council member Wolgamot said the front yard and side yard setbacks need to be looked at. He stated we need to make sure these make sense. He said that in some instances the homes in the historic district are too close, we need to make sure the structures are proportional to each other in the neighborhood.

City Council member Brainerd said he would like to see draft language addressing the concerns raised. He would like input from the Planning Commission members.

City Planner Perdu said she would compile the information received tonight and present it at a future meeting.

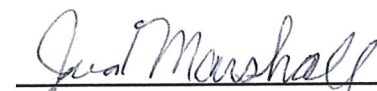
The workshop was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

ATTESTED:



JERENE ROGERS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:



JUD MARSHALL, MAYOR