

Jim Thorpe Planning Commission
January 21, 2020

Meeting called to order: 6:32 PM

Roll Call: Lou Hall, Joe Micko, John McGuire, Dr. Clem McGinley, Nancy Porambo

Attendees: Sierre Fogel, Mike Yeastead, Jim Dougher, Jake Arner, Curtis Jackson, Betty Lou McBride, Joanne Klitsch.

Approval of Minutes: Clem motioned to approve October 2019 minutes, John seconded. Motion carried.

Clem motioned to approve November 2019 minutes, Nancy seconded. Motion carried.

Jake Arner – Jake distributed a “Public Comment, regarding Canyon Rim Residential Plan”. He said Nanovic already gave approval for cabins and they can be rented. It would be good if the Canyon Rim would be approved under the ordinance of short-term rental. He is there to make the recommendation that Canyon Rim be included under short-term rentals.

If the plan is not, he will appeal any ordinance. John sent the short-term ordinance to Council. He said the ordinance was put together, reviewed by short-term owners and the public. They had comments. Kurt gave some suggestions. There were changes made. He would like to make comment on the changes. One comment in the ordinance, what zones they belong in, C3 and R4, then comments from public were added. In public comment, he will add the suggestion in that Jake made, under the specials and R2’s.

Jake said you can make recommendations. He wanted to make public comment. He stated it would be proper and fair if Canyon Rim was included in short-term rental. He wants to be able to rent and sell. It will up property values and will help with the future tram system and be included in tourism. He is trying to support project so it happens.

Kurtis said they PC has worked on this for some time. Council will get together and will make a recommendation. John said he will clean it up and get it ready to distribute to everyone.

Jake also said he would like PC to recommend a new sewer line from Highland Beverage to Flagstaff to be looked at for grants. It would benefit Flagstaff and his property. John, you mean to come down through the mountain? Jake said he would like to extend from 209 to Flagstaff. Kurt, how far, Jake, 300 ft. extension. If there is a grant, whoever develops Flagstaff would also add money to it.

Jake, Flagstaff is currently up for sale, someone will discover the property can’t sell. John, from previous attempts, there will be engineering issues. Lou would like to suggest that he make a proposal with regard to a sewer line.

Sierra Fogel indicated she is here for short-term rental topic. John will have it done so everyone can look at it by their next meeting.

Kurt Jackson indicated he put name in for a position on Planning. He will withdraw it, more opportunities at work. He will be too busy.

Betty Lou asked for a copy of the public comments on the short-term rental. Sierra, Matt and Kurt believe the inspection and licensing information is intact. Only thing that changed is that it would be permitted borough-wide and there are two methods in which they can take people out. It's same with "three strikes, you're out." County no longer keeps a license for everyone. Lou said its Council's decision.

Mike Yeasted indicated he is here to see what is going on.

Nominations for PC

There are two nominees:

Joanne Klitsch. John nominated, Clem seconded, motion carried.

Bob Shaninger, John nominated, Clem seconded, motion carried.

Residential Parking – Lou will make the meeting tomorrow with Clem, Nancy and Maureen.

John indicated he didn't get final report on the traffic study (it included parking). He will ask Council for an "Action Committee". Lou said he hopes we can meet with them. Clem, the last revision gave some parking suggestions. John will let us know.

Kurt suggested short-term and parking passed at same time. John, residential parking addresses R4 district. Other areas have same problem, LCCC for instance.

Sign Ordinance – Jolene volunteered to help with this, John agreed to help also. They have preliminary ordinance.

Suggestions – Lou, we will wait to see what they want us to do. There are two new members on the Borough Council, we need to go back to readdressing. Council didn't want to act on it when we finished with it. He said there is a problem with Leisureland, lower area is a big problem. Switchback Ridge is also not right, different addresses and hard to find houses. This needs to be fixed.

Kurt suggested maybe we should ask County to look into this.

Kurt said we should revisit the ordinance on clear-cutting lots as well. Some lots in Leisureland are totally cleared.

Motion to adjourn 8:15 PM: John motioned, seconded Clem. Motion carried.