

CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
July 22, 2019

The meeting of the Connell Planning Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commission Chairman Roger Bailie, Commission Members Vangi Ellwein, Bruce Blackwell, Jerry Sackmann
ABSENT: Robert Misener
STAFF: Mayor Lee Barrow, City Administrator Maria Peña, Accounting Clerk Ivan Barragan
VISITORS: Abadeen Peters, Kathy Bingham; Franklin County Graphic, Emma Garcia

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Commission member Ellwein moved to accept February 25th, 2019 minutes as written. Commission member Blackwell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Fence Regulations

City Administrator Maria Peña explained that Abadeen Peters had attended a city council meeting and asked the council to modify the regulations to the property 611 S. Seventh Ave. (a corner lot). The request was that she'd be allowed to place a 6 ft fence along the north side of the property where a fence up to 4 ft was required. City Administrator Maria Peña said the planning commission could grant a deviation if this property met certain criteria. Chapter 17.22.050 (f) (1-4) of the Connell Municipal Code (CMC) was read and City Administrator Maria Peña stated section (f) (1-4) did not apply to this property and did not meet the criteria to be able to grant a deviation. Planning Commission Chairman Roger Bailie mentioned that further research would be done to see if a solution could be found.

Business Owner Sidewalk Usage

During the June 17th city council meeting, a request from a downtown business owner was made to have dining expanded to the outside of their restaurant onto city sidewalk. City council allowed for the request, but City Attorney Dan Hultgren suggested that city staff work on an ordinance that would allow privileges to everyone that had a storefront sidewalk on Columbia Avenue. City Administrator Maria Peña suggested that a permit would be required before being allowed to use the sidewalk for dining. Specifically requiring 5 ft of unobstructed sidewalk.

Motion: Commission member Blackwell moved to recommend the usage of city sidewalk for dining leaving 5 ft of unobstructed sidewalk from the curb with a permit application to be forwarded to city staff to add to the ordinance. Commission member Sackmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chickens Within City Limits

A resident requested that council allow the keeping of domestic chickens. The current code did not allow for any poultry in residential areas and only allowed it in land zoned agriculture if they obtained a conditional use permit. Council was not opposed to allowing chickens and requested staff to revisit the CMC. City Administrator Maria Peña made it clear that the city would not allow roosters. Commission Chairman Roger Bailie requested that staff make modifications to the ordinance to be able to allow up to two chickens in residential areas with restrictions. The planning commission would revisit this item at the next planning commission meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

A grant application was submitted for Country Estates and a portion of Striker for a sewer project. City Administrator Maria Peña said the city would adopt their comprehensive plan without the expansion of the racetrack because the county had not yet adopted their comprehensive plan. Once the county adopted their comprehensive plan the city would have to go back and modify theirs. The following meeting was scheduled to be held on the fourth Monday of August at 5:30 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ivan Barragan, Assistant Secretary to Planning Commission