City of Gem Lake Planning Commission Meeting – June 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Planning Commission Chair Joshua Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commission Members Don Cummings, Stephanie Farrell, Derek Wippich and Art Pratt were present. Also present: City Attorney Kevin Beck, City Planner Evan Monson, Acting City Clerk Melissa Lawrence and Councilmember Jim Lindner.

June 13, 2023 Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Pratt to accept the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cummings. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes, agenda accepted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Wippich to approve the May 9, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Pratt. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes, minutes are approved.

Public Hearings

None

Old Business

Discussion of Nuisance Ordinance No. 86

City Planner Evan Monson shared with the Commission his draft of recommended revisions and additions to the current Nuisance Ordinance based off conversations at past month's meetings. The Commission reviewed the revisions and additions and felt as though the current draft is almost ready to be submitted to Council. Commission Chair Patrick and Commissioner Wippich both added that Sections 6 and 8 could be taken out and become stand-alone Ordinances which was discussed at the previous meeting.

Commissioner Cummings requested that City Planner Evan Monson add language to the Ordinance that would reference lighting, glare and noise in the Consolidate Land Use Ordinance.

Commissioner Wippich asked City Planner Evan Monson if Section 6.1.7 regarding snowmobiles needing a Pennant flag is still relevant or if it should be removed. After quick investigation it looks like it is an outdated reference and Commissioner Wippich suggests it be removed. He also had concerns regarding weeds and if the Ordinance should state specific weeds or if language can be added to reference a state site.

City Planner Evan Monson has got an idea of additional revisions that should be made and will have a final draft for the next meeting for review again. The Commission is happy with the progress and feels that it is moving in the right direction.

New Business

Discussion of CUP Need for Labore Property

Acting City Clerk Melissa Lawrence shared with the Commission that a property located on Labore Road is storing vehicles for the business located in Vadnais Heights across the street. In order for the property to continue to store those vehicles it would need to apply for a CUP. Acting City Clerk Melissa Lawrence informed the Commission that Building Official Mike Johnson will need to get out there soon to investigate and determine what Ordinances they are in violation of. Once that is completed a letter will be sent to the property informing them of the action that needs to be taken otherwise they will be in violation and subject to charges. There may be a Public Hearing in the next couple of months regarding this property.

Open Items for Commission Members to Bring Up

None

Future Meetings

City Council Meeting, Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at Heritage Hall, and Planning Commission Meeting, Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at Heritage Hall.

Attendance Inquiry

Commissioner Chair Patrick surveyed the Commission to see if any of the members would have any issues attending the June 13, 2023 meeting. At this time Commissioner Cummings will not be in attendance and Commissioner Wippich might not be in attendance.

Adjournment

Being there no further business, following a motion from Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Cummings, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa Lawrence