



CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, 125 South Maple Street, Fennville, MI 49408
Monday, April 6, 2020
7:00 p.m.

In light of the recent orders to limit social interactions due to COVID-19, the City Commission meeting was held through a virtual meeting site.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Present: Almquist, Bolles, Hayden, Jamros, Machan, Suerth, Pantelleria
Absent: None

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Jamros, seconded by Pantelleria to approve the agenda as present. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

4. Public Comments

During this time, members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak on items not on the agenda. Please remember that comments are limited to 5 minutes and should be directed toward the Mayor. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, you will be given the chance to do so before the Commission discusses the item.

None at this time.

5. Approval of the following City Commission Minutes:

- Regular Meeting: [March 16, 2020](#) – Click Link to access draft minutes online.

Moved by Suerth, seconded by Bolles to approve the City Commission minutes from March 16, 2020. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

6. Reports & Minutes

- none

NEW BUSINESS

7. The City Commission will be asked to introduce an ordinance to rezone the property located at 552 Third Street from R-1 Single Family Residential to I-2 General Industrial District.

Background Information: The City received an application to rezone the property located at 552 Third Street and the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the request during a meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended the City Commission approve the rezoning.

The approval of an ordinance is a two-step process. Once the ordinance is introduced, it can be considered for approval at a subsequent meeting.

Moved by Jamros, seconded by Bolles to introduce an ordinance to rezone the property located at 552 Third Street from R-1 Single Family Residential to I-2 General Industrial District. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

8. The City Commission will be asked to introduce an ordinance to partially rezone the property located at 222 S Maple Street from OS-1 Office Service District to B-2 General Business District.

Background Information: The City received an application to rezone the property located at 222 S Maple Street and the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the request during a meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended the City Commission approve the rezoning.

It is important to note that this is only a partial rezoning request to rezone the east portion of the property where the old city hall building is located. The garage lot will remain zoned OS-1.

The approval of an ordinance is a two-step process. Once the ordinance is introduced, it can be considered for approval at a subsequent meeting.

Moved by Almquist, seconded by Bolles to introduce an ordinance to partially rezone the property located at 222 S Maple Street from OS-1 Office Service District to B-2 General Business District. Votes Yes: All. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. The City Commission will be asked to discuss the Planning Commission's action to not recommend a draft ordinance to prohibit recreational marihuana in the CBD.

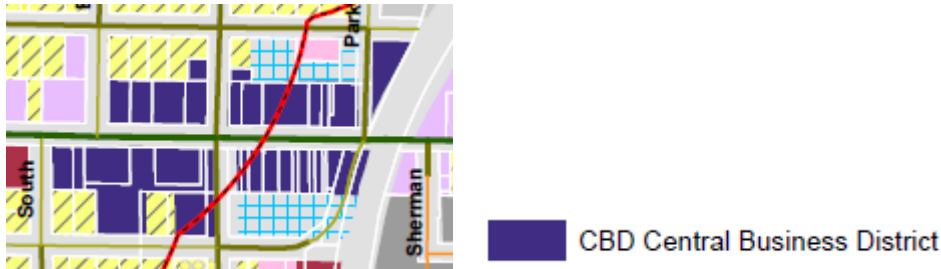
Background Information: On February 3, 2020 the City Commission formally adopted a licensing ordinance related to recreational marihuana establishments. During that same meeting, the City Commission asked that the Planning Commission draft an ordinance to prohibit recreational marijuana facilities within the Central Business District.

The requested prohibition would require an amendment to the text of the zoning ordinance separate from the licensing previously adopted. Staff proposed adding a section to the language of Section 18 regarding the Central Business identifying the prohibition.

A zoning text amendment requires a public hearing which must be noticed in the newspaper for at least 15 days prior to the hearing. During a meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020 he Planning Commission reviewed the proposed language and held a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment.

After the Planning Commission heard public comments and held their own discussion, they took action to return the ordinance to the City Commission as Not Recommended by the Planning Commission.

Please remember that the City Commission has already approved the regulatory ordinance to allow for marihuana establishments within the City as long as they are 1000' away from the school. The proposed Ordinance would have only prohibited the establishments within the Central business District, not any of the other allowed districts.



The Mayor shared statements he had received from citizens and business owners in the downtown area encouraging the Commission to prohibit recreational marihuana in the Central Business District.

Moved by Pantalleria, seconded by Machan to introduce an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance to prohibit recreational marihuana in the CBD. Voted Yes: Bolles, Machan, Suerth, Pantalleria. Voted No: Almquist, Hayden, Jamros. Motion carried.

10. Reports of Standing Committees:

- a. Finance/Personnel: Quarterly report will be presented at next meeting. DPW hiring process on hold until COVID-19 issues subside. Budget will be presented to the Finance Committee in May. There was some discussion on the financial impact to City finances with the Executive Order and business being closed.
- b. City Services (Police, Ambulance & Fire): New police car is finally in. Still working on getting new computer from County. Police have stepped up patrols. Fire Board is still work on budget. Wants to schedule a committee meeting the first part of May.
- c. City Properties: Still working on getting street light issues resolved. Discussion on number of people at park not practicing social distancing.
- d. Ordinances/Community Relations: Nothing to report.
- e. Planning: Next meeting in July. Zoning maps are in desprite need of updating.
- f. Administrative/DDA: Last meeting was cancelled. Next meeting in May.

11. Miscellaneous

Given the virtual meeting, the Commission was questioned as to how many people were at home and how many were at City Hall.

12. City Administrator Report

City Administrator gave an update on the USDA Water, SRF Sewer and Park Planning Projects. City Staff is still working to provide essential services.

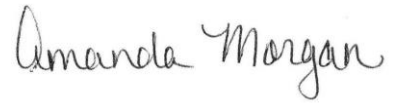
13. Approval of Bills – Invoices totaling \$13,095.75

Moved by Machan, seconded by Almquist to approve the bills totaling \$13,095.75. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Morgan".

Amanda Morgan
City Administrator

Approved by City Commission: April 20, 2020