

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - JULY 27, 2023
1:00 pm WORKSHOP SESSION ON ZONING

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 by chairperson Larry Shaffer. Larry introduced Walter Mixon as the newly appointed member of the Planning Commission.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Shaffer, Lou Lundquist, Jenny Irvine, Phil Bontrager, Walt Mixon, Christine Lundquist.

Also present - Calvin Mcshane, Township Zoning Commissioner

MINUTES: Minutes of the June 15, 2023 were approved on a motion by Jenny with support by Phil. Walt stood down from voting as he was not a Commission member at the time of that meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Larry introduced consultant, Pat Coleman, who will be assisting with the update of the Township zoning ordinance.

TOUR: Mr. Coleman, Calvin, and the Commission members utilized an ALTRAN bus for a tour of the area to acquaint Mr. Coleman with the community. The bus went thru Woodland Park, down to the Coast Guard Point, east to the County line, up Cemetary Road to Webb Road, up Airport Road and back to M-77, going thru the business district on the way back to the Community Center.

ZONING WORKSHOP: Mr. Coleman lead the discussion related to the need to update the zoning ordinance. He indicated that after reading the current zoning ordinance and reviewing the recently passed Master Plan, he had taken the liberty of beginning a draft ordinance in a different format that he has successfully used in recent years.

The Commission agreed that the new format looked like it would be much easier for people to understand. Discussion continued related to recent issues with which the Township has been dealing as well as possible changes to and/or combinations of current/proposed zones.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 on a motion by Christine with support by Phil, allowing members a chance to get dinner before the 6:00 public meeting.