

OWATONNA PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES FOR JULY 9, 2024

The Owatonna Planning Commission met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Charles S. Crandall Center – Chambers at City Hall with Chairperson Kelly Rooks conducting the meeting. Present at roll call were Commissioners Mark Meier, Kelly Rooks, John Eickhoff, Mark Wilson, Nick Peake, and David Effertz. Commissioner Rachel Springer-Gasner was absent. Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke and Planning Specialist Ashley Zidon were also present.

A motion was made by Meier and seconded by Peake to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2024. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

There will be no Planning Commission meeting on July 23rd. The August 13th Planning Commission meeting falls on the primary. Meeting date or time may need to be moved up. No city meetings can be held from 6-8pm on August 13.

There has been an early morning parking issue with a business downtown. Staff are completing some mapping and analysis for a short-term decision to a longer-term issue. In the winter, snow clearing is generally completed during 2:00-5:00 a.m. A snow emergency approach is an option. Downtown Owatonna currently operates under an hour approach to parking management. Another option is parking on alternate sides of the street. Updates will be shared with Planning Commission.

Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke gave an update on City Council's approved actions.

The online survey was extended by one week and nearly doubled the responses to 88 total. Engagement will have its own appendix to the plan. The parks and trails, and utilities chapters have seen amendments and have been shared with Department staff for comments. The implementation chapter will be completed prior to adoption. Phil Carlson of Stantec presented the final draft of the 2050 Comprehensive Plan (see report on file). The presentation provided an overview of the process and schedule. It highlighted a summary of open house and online engagement. Carlson noted that the additional feedback from the extended survey aligned with the key issues that are addressed in the draft plan and correlated with previous survey responses. The presentation also touched on the trends within the plan's chapters which include land use and housing, parks and trails, economic development, transportation, sustainability and resilience, utilities, and implementation. A presentation will be given at the City Council work session on July 16th. A public hearing at the Planning Commission will be held on August 27th. City Council to adopt the final plan sometime in fall of 2024. Commissioners provided their support on the draft plan.

A motion was made by Meier to adjourn and seconded by Wilson at 6:35 p.m. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Kruschke
Community Development Manager