OWATONNA PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

The Owatonna Planning Commission met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Crandall Center – Chambers with Chairperson Kelly Rooks conducting the meeting. Present at roll call were Commissioners Kelly Rooks, Rachel Springer-Gasner, John Eickhoff, Nick Peake, and Dave Effertz. Commissioner Mark Meier was absent. Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke and Senior Administrative Technician Kristen Kopp were also present.

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Springer-Gasner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 27, 2024. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Imagine Owatonna 2050 Comprehensive Plan was presented by Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke. Phil Carlson with Stantec was also present. Kruschke said that the comments that were emailed to him have been printed and provided to the Commissioners. Phil said that they've been working on this for a year and a half. The final draft has been online and tonight is the opportunity to officially wrap it up. The Planning Commission's task is to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to City Council. He said that he went over a summary of the plan during the Open House prior to the meeting tonight. Public hearing opened at 5:33 pm. No comments were made regarding this. Public hearing closed at 5:34 pm. Eickhoff said he appreciated this process—it's a big step for the community. He thanked Stantec for their help in putting this together and is in support of it. Effertz asked if there were any concerns or anything high level in the comments that Kruschke received. Kruschke said that there are some opinions in there. Comments are noted in the plan. If the Commission feels strongly enough to change anything, they can. Phil said that the Comprehensive Plan should not just sit unchanged for the next ten or twenty years. He recommended that they look at it at least once a year, and they may make changes. That's what it's there for—it's your plan. Peake said he appreciates the fluidity of the document. A motion was made by Eickhoff and seconded by Effertz to recommend City Council approval of the Imagine Owatonna 2050 Comprehensive Plan. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke said that the Council approved the parking recommendations on the Vine Street Parking Lot.

Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke said that they will be a public hearing the preliminary plat of Aire Apartments Addition as well as a related CUP and redevelopment TIF on October 8.

Community Development Manager Greg Kruschke formally thanked the Planning Commission for all of their work on the Comp Plan. He appreciates the extra time that they've put in and their willingness to work on it. It's a big step for the community. He also thanked Phil Carlson for his guidance through the process.

A motion was made by Springer-Gasner to adjourn and seconded by Wilson at 5:39 p.m. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

_____

Greg Kruschke
Community Development Manager