

**TOWN OF LA CONNER**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION ZOOM MEETING**  
**June 21, 2022**

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The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Bruce Bradburn, Marna Hanneman, Carol Hedlin and Liz Theaker.

Commissioners absent: John Leaver

Staff: Planner Michael Davolio.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Resident Dan O'Donnell recommended the Town to record the contract rezone agreement between Gerald Blades and the Town.

Resident Linda Talman discussed the email communications she found in her records request documents, between staff and the Hearing Examiner discussing the Motions for Reconsideration. Also, she felt it was wrong to charge for responses to a Motion of Reconsideration.

Resident Jim Matthews concurred with Dan O'Donnell; the Town should ratify the contract rezone agreement between Gerald Blades and the Town.

Commissioner Hanneman explained to Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Matthews they need to address the Council on the rezone agreement.

Resident Georgia Johnson owns the property at 307 Center Street, next to the Center Street Project. She feels the Town Government has been disrespectful. She was invited to respond to the Motion of Reconsideration and was surprised she was going to be billed.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Bradburn moved to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Theaker. Motion carried 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- *None*

Commissioner Hanneman requested an inventory of possible problems that could occur at the property COA just vacated on Maple Avenue. Because of rumors she is hearing, she would like to be proactive in possible changes to the code to avoid what has happened with the Center Street Project. Planner Davolio has been researching this in a

larger context for a presentation held by the Communication Committee on June 30<sup>th</sup>. He will provide the Planning Commission the information as well.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- *Development Regulation review*

Planner Davolio explained the Town can update its Development Code and Comprehensive Plan once a year. The process began this year by publishing in December of 2021, for public input to be submitted by January 31, 2022. There was one request, and that was from the Port.

Also discussed was the grant the Town submitted for the evaluation of the south section of Town involving the Moore Clark Building. It is to establish regulations under which the property will be developed in the future. The property now has a fence around it, paid by the Town, for public safety.

Planner Davolio presented the proposed changes to the following Town Codes.

- 15.10.927 Reader Board Signs
- 15.10.1035 Sandwich Board Signs
- 15.10.1040 Sign Areas
- 15.10.1185 Temporary Sign
- 15.115.030 Signs exempt from certificate of authorization
- 15.115.070 Allowable sign types
- 15.115.100 Compliance
- 15.115.120 Nonconforming signs
- 15.15.122 Inspection
- 15.15.124 Maintenance
- 15.15.126 Removal
- 15.15.130 Appeal of planning commission or planning director decision

Discussions included removing signage on fences, regulations for flags, sandwich boards, number of signs allowed, permitting, changing language to meet legal requirements and clarifying wording in the codes to be more specific. Planner Davolio will make the agreed changes from this meeting and there will be more discussion at the next meeting to address the remaining items.

### **CLOSING COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hanneman discussed the possible closing of First Street for the Fourth of July Event. Planner Davolio stated it has to go before Council, but also it is too late for this year.

Resident Jim Matthews explained he had requested to the Town Council to include in our codes, any building over thirty feet to be decided by a vote of the people. He was advised to bring it to the Planning Commission. Planner Davolio encouraged him to

submit any changes to the code, that he would like to see happen, and he will bring it before the Planning Commission for consideration of next year's code updates.

Resident Linda Talman feels the December/January timing for public input on code amendments is wrong. Planner Davolio stated the Planning Commission can submit an amendment to the Town Council if it is something they want to extend.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business the meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.

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Chair

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Date