

MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION OF POOLESVILLE
March 16, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Sneed called the meeting to order. In attendance was Commissioner, Schramm, Bupp, Stump, Tims, Town Manager Yost and Town Engineer Strong.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Manager Yost introduced Dave Kline from Potomac Edison to discuss the undergrounding of overhead power lines.

Mr. Kline described the process required to underground the wires. The Town would have to install 6 banks of 6 inch conduit along the stretch of state roadway. The Town would also have to install underground connections to any businesses or residential building currently served via overhead lines. Once the conduits were in place, Potomac Edison would pull new lines, set transformers on the ground and tie in customers. Once everyone was tied in and energized, the poles and lines could be removed. Also, any communication lines would have to be addressed in the same manner.

As a ballpark estimate, from the intersection of Fisher Avenue and Elgin Road to Cattail Road, it would cost the Town around 7 million dollars to complete the project.

CITIZEN COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Bupp moved to approve minutes of February 10, 2016. Seconded by Commissioner Stump. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 194 - Zoning Regulations for the Town

Manager Yost provided a history on the proposed Ordinance.

Resident and previous Planning Commission Chair George Coakley raised concerns that the proposed ordinance could be construed to create a circumvention of the Planning Commission that had occurred several years ago. After a discussion Commissioner Bupp motioned to recommend approval of the Ordinance with the provision that the resolution be changed to add a "WHEREAS" stating that the passage of the Ordinance does not alter the authority of the Planning Commission over site plan review as provided for in the Land Use Article of the Maryland Annotated Code. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stump. Motion carried 5-0.

Annual Planning Report

Manager Yost provided a brief of the Annual Report identifying the number of building permits issued, zoning changes and other tasks completed by the Planning Commission in 2015. Commissioner Schramm motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Commissioner Stump. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Commissioner Bupp abstaining due to the short term being active on the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Streetscape

Manager Yost provided an overview of the Streetscape Consultant Request for Proposal developed and now out for bid.

The board discussed a series of streetscape survey questions to be sent to the Boards and Commissions.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Bupp, seconded by Commissioner Schramm. Motion passed 5-0.