

CITY OF MASON

201 West Ash St.
Mason, MI 48854-0370

City Hall 517-676-9155
Fax 517-676-1330

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING - COUNCIL CHAMBER

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes: February 10, 2015
4. People from the Floor
5. Announcements
6. Presentations
 - Harmony Gmazel, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission – Health Impact Assessment Mapping Tool
7. Regular Business
 - A. Report – Medical Marihuana Ordinance Subcommittee Activity
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Correspondence
 - Planning & Zoning News, January 2015
11. Liaison Reports
12. Director's Report
13. Administrator's Report
14. Adjournment

**CITY OF MASON
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
with Mason City Council Members
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Reeser called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan.

Present: Commissioners: Barna, *Brown, Hagle, Hude, Reeser, Scott, Waxman
Absent: Commissioner: Fischer (Excused), Sabbadin (Excused)
Also present: Council Members: Clark, Droscha, Ferris, Mulvany, Waltz
Martin A. Colburn, City Administrator
David Haywood, Zoning & Development Director
Deborah J. Cwierniewicz, City Clerk
John Stressman, Chief of Police
Tom Hitch, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Minutes of January 13, 2015

The regular meeting Minutes of February 13, 2015, were approved as submitted.

*Brown arrived at 6:32 p.m.

PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sesquicentennial Celebration – March 9, 2015 – City Hall

REGULAR BUSINESS

Joint Discussion with City Council – Medical Marihuana Ordinance

Reeser stated that members of City Council as well as the city attorney were present to hold a joint discussion regarding the current medical marihuana ordinance. A subcommittee has been appointed to make appropriate changes to the ordinance in consideration of the existing moratorium on the ordinance. Prior to the subcommittee working on the ordinance, the Planning Commission wanted to hold a joint meeting with City Council and the city attorney to know collectively, the issues to consider.

Hitch gave an overview of the current status, stating that there has not been any case law or statutory changes since his November 5, 2014, memorandum. He gave a brief overview of current legislation and the existing moratorium on the city ordinance, indicating that the current moratorium could be extended an additional time provided the Planning Commission is making progress on developing an ordinance. He further stated that dispensaries are currently illegal as determined by case law. Discussion

ensued regarding the existing moratorium on the ordinance, whether to enact the ordinance, repeal the ordinance, or extend the moratorium.

The City Council and Planning Commission discussed a wide range of issues related to medical marihuana and identified the following issues to pursue:

- Recognize that dispensaries are not currently legal
- Study Colorado marihuana statistics
- Recognize that cash businesses are targets of crime
- Consider location of uses carefully
- Explore the scope and consequences of high level of regulation vs. little or no regulation
- Allow care-givers only in areas that the community accepts
- Explore if we should require care-givers to be registered with the City
- Recommend additional moratorium as necessary
- Coordinate with outlying communities and townships
- Explore other ordinance examples
- Recognize that 59 percent of Mason votes were in favor of the original act
- Seek public input to help guide ordinance creation
- Consider the enforceability of any draft ordinance
- Utilize the Mayor Pro-tem as a conduit between City Council and Planning Commission
- Realize that a moratoriums are not indefinite and that progress must be made
- Explore County statistics with regard to number of State registered patients and care-givers

It was the consensus of the Planning Commission and City Council to have the subcommittee review and address the issues identified in discussion, current options, detailing the pros and cons and report their findings when compiled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Distributed.

LIAISON REPORTS

Brown informed commissioners regarding current City Council business.

DIRECTOR REPORT

Haywood informed the Commission regarding current zoning and development business.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Colburn informed the Commission regarding current City business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Deborah J. Cwiertniewicz, City Clerk

Seth Waxman, Secretary

City of Mason

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P.O. Box 370
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www.mason.mi.us



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Police 517 676-2458
Fax 517 676-1330
TDD 1-800-649-3777

MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: David E. Haywood, Zoning & Development Director 

RE: Presentation – Health Impact Assessment Mapping Tool

DATE: March 6, 2015

In 2013-14, the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, Michigan State University and the Ingham County Health Department developed a new mapping tool for local planning commissions to use while conducting site plan reviews. Harmony Gmazel of TCRPC will present a brief overview of the mapper and the many uses it has at the local level.

Please visit <http://hiatoolkit.weebly.com/> to see the mapper and information about incorporating health into all policies.

The following is the overview description from the Health Impact Assessment Toolkit website listed above:

“This free, online Mapping and Impact Assessment Tool supports local leaders, community planners, landowners, developers, and the public in assessing the potential health, environmental, and social effects of policies and changes to the built environment. With this tool a user can locate a project on an online base map, select and visualize mapped information about that location and surrounding areas, and evaluate the project using an impact assessment checklist approach. The tool can address issues regarding water quality; air quality; noise; wastewater, solid waste, and hazardous waste management; social capital; health equity and food systems; physical activity and injury prevention; and meeting regional growth objectives. Digital maps are available for Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties in the Mid-Michigan Region, although some areas may have more detailed information than others.”

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: David E. Haywood, Zoning & Development Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Haywood", is written over the "FROM:" line.

RE: Report – Medical Marihuana Ordinance Subcommittee Activity

DATE: March 6, 2015

The Medical Marihuana Ordinance Committee met on February 28, 2015 to begin the process of creating an ordinance to address medical marihuana in the community. The Committee identified several issues to pursue, including the following, many of which coincide with the City Council and Planning Commission's identified issues:

- Protect building and occupant safety
- Be mindful of potentially incompatible land uses
- Consider requiring care-giver registration
- Gather public input/community concerns
- Craft ordinance language consistent with Master Plan principles
- Consider neighborhood values
- Be aware of the potential for related crime activity

The Committee agreed that the next step should be to gather public input. The first step in gathering public input would be to identify key players, followed by community forums that would include an educational component, a list of issues/consideration, and then discussion/input. The Committee will continue to develop this strategy further in the coming weeks.

The Committee requested that staff provide a summary of the discussion between City Council and the Planning Commission. They also requested additional copies of past Planning and Zoning News articles that addressed the issue.

The pertinent issues identified during the joint discussion of the City Council and Planning Commission are included in the Planning Commission minutes of February 10, 2015.