

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2005

The Planning Commission held its monthly meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Room at the Van Buren Municipal Complex.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Freeman, Chairman
 Philip Bagby, Co-Chair
 Lyn Brown
 Mark Evans
 Sue Moore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dorvan Wiley
 Andy Dibble
 Frank Newman
 Mike Burgess

OTHERS PRESENT: David Martin, Chief Bldg. Insp.
 Cami Brown, Rec. Sec.
 Brad Baldwin, City Engineer
 Candice Settle, City Atty.
 Rick Moon
 Barry McCormick, Hawkins-Weir

The following items were on the agenda:

Planning Commission Convenes:

- 1. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Planning Commission Adjourns

Board of Adjustments Convenes:

- 2. Rezone request, Lot 4, Boatright Subdivision, 2522 Kibler Road, Van Buren, Arkansas. Owners are Nelda Morland and Loretta West, owner represented by Hawkins-Weir Engineers,**

Inc. Owner is requesting the zone change from C-2 to R-3 for duplex/multi-family housing.

**Board of Adjustments Adjourns
Planning Commission Convenes:**

- 3. Public Hearing on Sidewalk Development Program to obtain input for possible projects for the program.**
- 4. Any other business that comes before the Commission.**

Planning Commission Convenes:

First item up was the approval of the minutes from the last meeting. A motion was made by Sue Moore to approve, motion was seconded by Mark Evans, and motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Planning Commission Adjourns
Board of Adjustments Convenes:**

Next was a rezone request, Lot 4, Boatright Subdivision, 2522 Kibler Road, Van Buren, Arkansas. Owners are Nelda Moreland and Loretta West, being represented by Hawkins-Weir Engineers, Inc. Owners were requesting a rezone from C-2 to R-3 for duplex/multi-family housing. After some discussion, Philip Bagby made a motion to approve. Lyn Brown seconded this motion, and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Board of Adjustments Adjourns
Planning Commission Convenes:**

Next was a public hearing on the Sidewalk Fund Program. Bob Freeman commented current funding for this program is \$46,142.85. Mr. Freeman also referred to a letter from Lonnie Myers of the Van Buren School District, in which Mr. Myers stated the completion of the proposed sidewalk plan that will connect Butterfield Junior High School with King Elementary School on Poplar Street would make it much safer for children that utilize this route as they walk

to and from school. Another area discussed was the West side of the road from the top of Log Town Hill to City Heights Elementary, as that area is traveled, and there is no sidewalk for pedestrians between those two points for them to use. Bob Freeman asked Brad Baldwin, City Engineer, to do a projected cost analysis on the proposed Log Town Hill to City Heights Elementary sidewalk. Mr. Freeman commented on doing some design work, and maybe doing it in phases, looking at what the cost might be. After some discussion, Philip Bagby made a motion to recommend sidewalk project from Butterfield Junior High School to King Elementary down Poplar Street to the City Council. This motion was given a second by Sue Moore, and carried a unanimous vote. The Planning Commission will wait for the design work and projected cost analysis on the proposed Log Town Hill/City Heights before any recommendations are made.

Next was a discussion with Planning Commission, City Attorney Candice Settle, and citizen Ricky Moon on the possibility of opening an indoor firing range in the City of Van Buren. After listening to Mr. Moon's presentation, and discussion of ordinances, and issues that would accompany such a business, the Planning Commission decided to hold a Public Hearing on this matter at the next scheduled Planning Commission, which will be held on November 1, 2005. City Attorney Candice Settle agreed to draft a proposed ordinance on this and have it ready to go over at the next Planning Commission meetings. Philip Bagby commented the Planning Commission is taking a positive stance on this issue, before the City has a demand for this particular type of business, and that the Commission should regulate such a business for health and safety reasons. Mr. Bagby stated the Planning Commission is perfectly within the rights and powers of the Planning Commission to do so.

With no other business before the Commission, this meeting was adjourned.

Bob Freeman, Chairman

Cami L. Brown, Rec. Secretary

