



MINUTES
Newaygo City Planning Commission
August 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Roll Call: Present: Chambers, DeVries, Faulkner, Fedell, Francis, Wight, Williams
Absent: None
Also Present: Jon Schneider: City Manager, Kim Goodin: Recording Secretary,
Amy Dalman: City Code Enforcement Officer

Motion by Wight, second by Faulkner to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams to approve 06/06/2024 meeting minutes. AIF/MC

BOARD BUSINESS

Schneider stated that shipping storage containers had been discussed at the previous Planning Commission Meeting and that no decision had been reached in regards to allowing them in the City, not allowing them in the City, or next steps. He displayed pictures of a City resident who placed a shipping storage container in his yard, without a permit, planning to use it as an accessory building. There was a picture before the resident had painted the container and a picture after the resident painted the container. Included in the packets was information and a legal opinion from the City attorney regarding shipping storage containers. Information from the attorney said that shipping storage containers could be problematic for use as a dwelling as they almost never meet the Michigan Building Code requirements. The information from the City attorney stated that the City has three general options for regulating shipping storage containers: 1. Ban or prohibit them 2. Regulate them with regard to whether they would be allowed, how many on a parcel, location, setbacks, etc. 3. Allow them with little or no regulation. The City attorney's overall opinion is if the City decides to allow shipping storage containers that the City should proceed carefully stating that it is easier to loosen regulations, but harder to tighten regulations. Schneider asked board members how they want to proceed and for their thoughts regarding next steps. Board Member comments and discussion on shipping storage containers included:

- Allowing them as accessory buildings with restrictions such as: location, coloring to match house, placement, setback, etc.
- Sturdiness
- Safety concerns
- Impact on tax valuation
- Regulation on roofs
- Shipping storage container sizes

Motion by Fedell, second by Chambers to have the City work on "draft" rules and regulations regarding shipping storage containers to potentially allow for them in the City and bring back to a future

Planning Commission Meeting for discussion and review. Roll Call: Yeas: Chambers, DeVries, Faulkner, Fedell, Francis, Wight, Williams Absent: None Nay: None MOTION CARRIED
Schneider gave updates on striping that will be done in the near future in the North and South parking lots and around City Hall. He stated that the M82 Lift Station upgrade was almost complete and discussed potential new sidewalks and pedestrian walks in various areas of the City. Schneider stated that the bid had been awarded for the expansion of the Social District Project in the South parking lot and that this project should start this fall. He discussed the Townsquare/Pocket Park project stating that he had submitted a grant for the project. He gave an update on sidewalk repair in front of Newaygo Brewery.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

BOARD COMMENTS

Motion by Fedell, second by Faulkner to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. AIF/MC

Secretary-Sandy Williams