

**CITY OF TAFT
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2013**

The July 17, 2013, regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Taft, held in the City of Taft Council Chamber, 209 E. Kern Street, Taft, CA 93268, was opened by Vice Chairman Robert Thompson at 6:09:35 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Robert Thompson, and invocation was given by Bob Jordan.

PRESENT: Vice Chairman Robert Thompson
Commissioners Renée Hill and Bob Leikam
Interim Planning and Development Director, Mark Staples
Recording Secretary Alina Megerdom
City Attorney Tom Ebersole

ABSENT: Chairman Ron Orrin

I. SEATING OF NEWLY APPOINTED PLANNING COMMISSIONERS 6:17:05 PM

Recommendation – Statement by Deputy City Clerk

Deputy City Clerk Alina Megerdom administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Renee Hill and Robert Thompson. Ms. Hill and Mr. Thompson were seated as members of the City of Taft Planning Commission. Mr. Shaun Sutherland was absent, and will be seated as member of the City of Taft Planning Commission at the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 7, 2013.

II. SELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON 6:17:18 PM

Recommendation – Deputy City Clerk proceeds with taking nomination for Chairperson.

Deputy City Clerk Alina Megerdom conducted the nomination procedure for the selection of Chairman. Ron Orrin was nominated as Chair by Planning Commissioner Bob Leikam. Leikam was nominated as Chair by Planning Commissioner Renée Hill. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed. Planning Commissioner Orrin seated as Chairman by unanimous vote.

III. SELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON 6:17:23 PM

Recommendation – Deputy City Clerk proceeds with taking nomination for Vice Chairperson.

Deputy City Clerk Alina Megerdom conducted the nomination for the selection of Vice Chairman. Commissioner Robert Thompson was nominated as Vice Chair by Commissioner Bob Leikam. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed. Commissioner Thompson seated as Vice-Chairman by unanimous vote.

IV. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consider approval of minutes for the June 5, 2013, Regular Planning Commission Meeting.

Recommendation: Approve as submitted.

Motion: Moved by Leikam, seconded by Hill, to approve the minutes of June 5, 2013.

AYES: Hill, Leikam, Thompson
Yes: 3/0

Staples asked the Vice Chair if agenda item VI can be moved to be reviewed after item number VII. Commissioners agreed to present item number VII, first.

VII. PLANNING DIRECTOR REPORT 6:21:36 PM

1. Orientation/Training – Planning Commissioner’s Handbook, Sections 1 & 2
2. Orientation/Training – Rosenberg’s Rules of Order

Staples conducted an orientation and training session for the Commissioners with a PowerPoint presentation on the Planning Commissioner’s Handbook, Section 1 & 2 and Rosenberg’s Rules of Order.

3. Information/ Discussion – Project Status Updates: Hillside Estates, Sunset Rail, Pizza Hut, GPS Mine, Pilot Plaza Ice Machine, and Industrial Way Modular Office. 7:11:25 PM

Staples updated the Commissioners on the status of the projects in the City of Taft. He stated that the Developers for Hillside Estates and City of Taft met with State Fish and Wildlife at the Hillside Estates site earlier in July and it was a very productive meeting. It seems like the endangered species Blunt Nose Leopard Lizard is not present at the site.

Sunset Rails project is moving forward with the Hotel. The ground breaking has been postponed.

Pizza Hut opened July 2nd. They complied with all the conditions placed on the project by the Commission. They also resurfaced and restriped the parking lot.

Staples gave an update on the Mine located in the City limits and it’s compliance with State regulations.

The two Site Plans that were approved at the June 2013 Planning Commission meeting, which were Pilot Plaza Ice Machine and Industrial Way Modular Office. The Ice Machine has submitted plans for Building plan check, but Staff has not received plans for the modular office for Building Plan Check.

VI. RECEIVE REPORT AND PROVIDE DIRECTION

1. RV Park Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Review of a zoning ordinance amendment for RV Park development standards. 6:48:05 PM

Staples presented the staff report on RV Park Zoning Ordinance Amendment and provided a brief PowerPoint presentation on the proposed standards and showed a sample site plan.

Leikam asked if for the possible shorter stay RV Parking if it’s the developer’s choice not to bring in water hookup. Staples stated that shorter stay RV Parking was provided as an option to the Commissioners to allow fewer spaces and for maximum 5 day stays. Staples stated that limiting utility

hookups to just electrical would help limit the stay for possibly smaller short-term stay RV Parking facilities.

Thompson suggested that the RV Park to have the lots be divided to indicate a certain percentage of lots assigned for longer stays, up to 6 months and some for shorter stays, up to 30 days.

Thompson asked if there was anyone in the audience who had any comments in regards to the RV Park Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

Geary Coats, Master Developer for Sunset Rails, LLC introduced himself and stated he was interested in developing an RV Park for 53 spaces and storage in the City of Taft. He is looking in remodeling the existing "Trading Post/Deck" structure on Supply Row for use as a general store/club house, fountain with laundry and office addition.

Leikam asked if Mr. Coats was interested in putting water and sewer hookups. Coats stated that it is located in the City Limits, therefore water and sewer would be provided to the RV spaces.

VIII. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS 7:15:22 PM

Attorney Ebersole welcomed aboard the new Commissioners. He stated that he will be at City Hall on the first and third Tuesday and Wednesday of each month and is available by phone if the Commissioners need to meet with him or have any questions.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

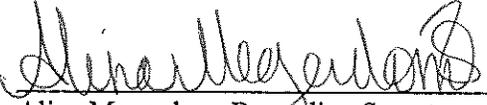
Thompson congratulated the new Commissioners.

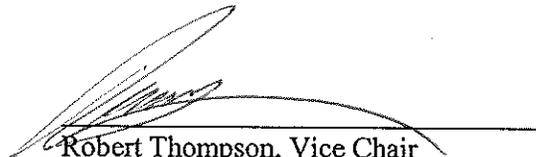
Identification of Representative to the City Council.

Commissioner Thompson stated he would attend the Council Meeting and report on Planning Commission meeting updates on Tuesday, August 6, 2013.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Leikam seconded by Hill and approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17:13 PM.


Alina Megerdom, Recording Secretary


Robert Thompson, Vice Chair