

**CITY OF TAFT PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2015**

SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The April 08, 2015, special 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 6:07:53 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Jones. Invocation was given by Bob Jordan of Lighthouse Foursquare Church.

PRESENT: Vice Chairman Robert Thompson;
Commissioners Shannon Jones, Bob Leikam and Jerry Livingston.
Planning and Community Development Director Mark Staples;
City Clerk Yvette Mayfield; Office Assistant Brenda Johns.

ABSENT: Chairman Ron Orrin

1. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

2. MINUTES

March 18, 2015 Regular Meeting

Motion: Moved by Jones, seconded by Leikam to approve Minutes as submitted.

AYES: Jones, Leikam, Livingston, Thompson

ABSENT: Orrin

VOTE: 4-0

3. PUBLIC HEARING – ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 2014-13

Planning Director Staples presented the staff report and recommendation.

Commissioner Livingston requested clarification from Director Staples on transitional and supportive housing due to its broad interpretation. Staples noted that definition is not made clear by the Housing and Community Development, but that Government Code can be referenced for further clarification.

Commissioner Thompson asked if halfway houses were the same as a transitional homes and if the TIL program fell under a transitional home. Director Staples states the TIL program would fall under a Group Home.

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:28:17 PM to receive testimony from proponents and opponents

Bob Jordan of 303 San Emidio Street asked if a natural disaster were to occur and emergency shelters were needed, would this Zoning Ordinance conflict with such a need. He also inquired as to whether the City had an emergency response plan in place. Director Staples explained a natural disaster would fall into a different category and different zoning codes, he also noted that this particular zoning ordinance would not interfere and that the City does have a disaster plan in place and the Police Chief is actively working on updating the plan.

Public Hearing was closed 6:30:41 PM

Motion: Moved by Livingston, seconded by Jones to Adopt a Resolution recommending approval to the City Council of Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2014-13, an amendment of Chapters 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 12 of Title 6 of the Taft Zoning Ordinance relating to Emergency Shelters, Transitional and Supportive Housing. (*Resolution No. 2015-07*)

AYES: Jones, Leikam, Livingston, Thompson
ABSENT: Orrin
VOTE: 4-0

4. GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2015-01 – HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE 2013-2023

Planning Director Staples presented the staff report and recommendation. Director Staples also presented additional items for Zoning Ordinance Amendment No.2014-13 (copies were submitted to the Clerk for the permanent file).

Motion: Moved by Jones, seconded by Leikam to approve the draft letter to HCD regarding the Implementation Review for the City of Taft 2008-2013 Housing Element that qualifies the City for a Streamlined Review for the 2015-2023 Housing Element Update.

AYES: Jones, Leikam, Livingston, Thompson
ABSENT: Orrin
VOTE: 4-0

5. 2015 ARBOR DAY/EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

Planning Director Staples presented the staff report and recommendation

Motion: Moved by Jones seconded by Livingston to recognize National Arbor Day and Earth Day on Thursday, April 23, 2015.

AYES: Jones, Leikam, Livingston, Thompson
ABSENT: Orrin
VOTE: 4-0

6. PLANNING DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Staples announced he will be out of the office April 17th –April 24th. He also informed the Council of the Annexation Ad Hoc Committee's next meeting, which is set for Wednesday May 6, 2015 at 4pm and that the Housing Element Progress Report for 2014 has been approved by the City Council. He welcomed everyone back from the holiday weekend and hoped everyone was well rested and extended a thank you on behalf of the City Attorney for the Commissioners active attendance at this year's ethics training.

7. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS

There were none.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Jones extended a thank you to City Council for the approval of funds to support the local fire work show on July 3, 2015 and shared with every one about the upcoming Fund the Fireworks Donation Days to be held at the corner of Kern & 4th St. on April 10, May 1 and June 5, 2015 between 8am – 12pm. She also asked for an update on the Freedom Homes project.

Commissioner Livingston requested a report showing the effectiveness of past approved City Ordinances.

Commissioner Thompson commented on the new housing development on Hillard Street and concern on the building sequence.

IDENTIFICATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Commissioner Thompson was appointed as the representative to report to the City Council at their next meeting April 21, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct it was moved by Jones, seconded by Livingston and approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 6:54:52 PM

Brenda Johns, Office Assistant

Ron Orrin, Chairman