

**CITY OF COLUMBUS
JOINT MEETING
INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY MEETING FORMAT
STATUTES SECTION 13D.021
6-07-2023**

The 6-07-2023 Joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting for the City of Columbus was called to order by Mayor Jesse Preiner at the City Hall at 6:05 PM. Present were Mayor Jesse Preiner, City Council member Janet Hegland, Planning Commission members Lynn Carver-Quinn, Barb Bobick, and Bethany Barrette, City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, City Planner Dean Johnson, Associate Planner Frank Koenen, and Planning and Zoning Permit Tech Eleanor Hahn.

In attendance via interactive technology was Council member Sue Wagamon.

Councilmembers Rob Busch and Ron Hanegraaf, and Planning Commissioner Judy Huntosh were absent from the meeting.

The meeting was held in an interactive technology meeting format.

1. **CALL TO ORDER –City Council and Planning Commission Meeting – 6:05 p.m.**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **MEETING AGENDA** *Motion* Carver-Quinn to approve the 6-07-2023 meeting agenda. Second Hegland. Motion carried with Bobick, Barrette, Wagamon, and Preiner voting in favor.
4. **APRIL 19, 2023 JOINT CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION MTG. MINUTES** *Motion* Hegland to approve the 4-19-2023 Joint City Council & Planning Commission Minutes. Second Bobick. Motion carried with Carver-Quinn, Barrette, Wagamon, and Preiner voting in favor.
5. **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM** Nothing at this time.
6. **DISCUSSION – ORDINANCE 23-02 - COMMERCIAL DESIGN STANDARDS (PAGES 1-14)** At this time the City Council and Planning Commission held a discussion regarding the proposed Ordinance 23-02 regulating commercial design standards. City Planner Dean Johnson outlined the changes to the city code. Councilmember Janet Hegland proposes an amendment to letter G of 7A-665, 675, 685, 695, 705, 725, and 735 to include a one-acre threshold to the minimum square footage of buildings being at least 7% of the property acreage. Hegland stated that the ordinance amendment is to prevent small commercial buildings on large lots and should not prohibit the construction of small commercial buildings on lots less than an acre. Although City Planner Dean Johnson and City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko indicate that any commercial development can apply for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) Permit to circumvent the 7% minimum, neither have an issue with adding a one-acre threshold.

Councilmember Hegland brings up a previous comment made by Councilmember Busch, who was absent from the meeting, disagreeing with the proposed prohibition of standing seam metal panels on commercial buildings. City Planner Dean Johnson believes that Councilmember Busch may have been mistaken on the definition of standing seam panels and suggests continuing the discussion when Councilmember Busch is present.

Motion Hegland to approve Commercial Design Standards proposed ordinance with the amendment to letter G of 7A-665, 675, 685, 695, 705, 725, and 735 to read as follows: For any lot equal to or greater than one acre, the minimum square footage of any building or buildings shall be at least seven per cent (7%) of the property acreage, net of wetlands, stormwater ponds and other easement encumbrances, and call for a public hearing on July 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with a public hearing notice publication date of July 6, 2023. Second Carver-Quinn. Motion carried with Barrette, Wagamon, and Preiner voting in favor and Bobick voting against.

7. DISCUSSION – TRUCKALINE LANDSCAPE PLAN REVIEW (ENCLOSURE PAGES E1 - E4) At this time the City Council and Planning Commission discussed the updated landscaping plan for a TruckALine development at 9515 150th Ave. Associate Planner Frank Koenen and City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko detailed the reasons for the changes, including a fire hydrant being located where the proposed monument sign was, and a considerable number of trees encroaching the utility's easement, as well as overhanging in the right-of-way. City Planner Dean Johnson says that the trees in the original plans submitted in December were consistent with the city's rule regarding plantings in the first 10 feet of the utility's easement, and that they should be allowed to plant, provided that they confirm with the transportation and traffic information hotline (511) beforehand. Councilmember Hegland and Planning Commission Chair Carver-Quinn say that the original plans provide the screening that they requested, while the updated plans fall short. The City Council and Planning Commission agree that they should return to original plans along 150th Ave NE, and a new plan along Hornsby St NE that combines the two. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko suggests trees be planted in the back 10 feet, with shrubs in the front 10 feet to provide screening without disturbing the easement or right-of-way. Planning Commission member Bobick says that the proposed planting of White Oak trees should be replaced with Red Maple trees as Anoka County is currently at-risk for oak wilt. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko details the changes that will be communicated to TruckALine.

8. PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT Nothing at this time.

At this time City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko presented a question to the Planning Commission regarding the proposed construction of a 10'x20' accessory storage building at the Bare Home facility at 14744 Hornsby St NE. The accessory building will be the same materials as the primary structure and will be used to store landscaping equipment. There

were no objections from any City Council or Planning Commission member, and approval was given to proceed without amending the CUP.

9. ASSOCIATE PLANNER'S REPORT At this time Associate Planner Frank Koenen gave a presentation outlining the state's Environmental Review process. He explained important acronyms and terms, focusing on the three different processes (EAW, EIS, and AUAR), and described the thresholds and requirements for each type of review. Each type of review requires professional assistance from a variety of fields. An EAW is a twenty-question worksheet that usually takes about six months to complete, while an EIS or AUAR are more detailed and can take over a year to complete. Koenen explained that an Environmental review can be required if these thresholds are met or done voluntarily by developers if they believe that a review might be required in the future. A city can also require an Environmental Review, despite the project falling below the thresholds, if there is significant public demand for one. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko explains that the City of Columbus will be undertaking an AUAR in conjunction with the City of Lino Lakes for an area of 300 acres, of which 60 acres falls within Columbus.

10. ADJOURN *Motion* Carver-Quinn to adjourn. Second Hegland. Motion carried with Bobick, Barrette, Wagamon, and Preiner voting in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Eleanor Hahn

Respectfully Submitted: Recording Secretary Eleanor Hahn.