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CITY OF BELEN
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 27, 2015

Chairman Tom Greer called the regular meeting of the Belen Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Tom Greer
Vice Chair Steve Ethridge
Commissioner Claudine Montano
Commissioner Debbie Thompson
Commissioner Gordon Reeves

CITY STAFF: Steven Tomita
Lisa R Miller, Planning & Zoning Administrator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Claudine Montano moved to approve the Agenda with the addition of the Pledge of Allegiance being added.

Commissioner Debbie Thompson seconded the Motion.

Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2015 were reviewed.

Commissioner Debbie Thompson moved to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Claudine Montano seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW

a. Belen Boundary-New area

Lisa Miller informed the Commission that the maps provided is the last area for them to discuss. She showed them all of the maps that they have done so far.

Chairman Tom Greer asked if the previous ones had gone before the City Council .

Steven Tomita said that a workshop has to be set up for the City Council first before there is a public hearing. The City Council wants to review them before the public does.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge said that he would like to see park, down by the river, would like to see that become a part of the City.

Steven Tomita informed the Commission that the park belongs to the Schools now.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge would like to see the City get with the Schools to see if that park could be opened back up again.

Commissioner Debbie Thompson asked if the schools had a plan to put up a barn at the Willie Chavez Park.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge said yes they are. He thinks that there would be receptive audience as far as the River park goes. People went and played at the park as they grew up and would like to be able to give that same access to the kids now.

Steven Tomita said that as soon as The Main Street Group receives money, or in kind services, from the City, they can file for funding for those trails along the river. These are TAP fees and they can apply for help in areas such as these.

Lisa Miller informed the Commission where the existing boundary is along this corridor. There is going to be some issues in this area.

Chairman Tom Greer said that this area is one of the more difficult areas for our boundaries. There are so many islands located within this area and he does not know whether sending letters would be the best way in this area. He feels that talking to the individual property owners would be the way to go.

Steven Tomita said that in this area there are some sections that have no sewer lines available and it would require lift stations to provide this service but at a very high cost. Residential does not support itself.

Commissioner Gordon Reeves said that something to think about is the cost of all the annexations were propose also come at a cost. We may have to revisit all of them to get an idea of the cost.

Chairman Tom Greer said that he feels that we need to create boundaries that are sensible, regardless at this point, what it is going to cost. The City Council will then look at the different phases that we have to look at where it makes more sense to start.

Steven Tomita said not necessarily, the P & Z Commission needs to look at a logical boundary, and the restrictions that we see within those boundaries.

Lisa Miller informed the Commission that the sewer line on Eastside School Road stops right in front of the school. The water line goes all the way down to Serafin Rd, but that is only a two inch line.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge said that as we get closer to the river the more you are going to have to pump it uphill due to the water table. It would be nice if we could have a better understanding on this.

Steven Tomita suggested that Ralf Jaramillo and Dale Tafoya come to the next meeting to answer any of their questions concerning this. Lisa will gather the information as to how many are using water. This will be put on our next agenda for review.

b. Architectural Design Requirements

Steven Tomita would like to discuss where they would like to go next. Before they got into the language he thought it would be prudent to hold a public workshop and show them the same slide show that was presented to you. This way we could also get their input on what we are doing.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge suggested that if we need to find a way to get the information out to the public, and get them to attend.

Steven Tomita said that he could get it sent out with the water bills, we could do a rotary call and email notification, we could get it over to the Chamber of Commerce for distribution to their members. He will work on getting the Main Street Group to attend, they need to be a part of this process.

Vice Chair Steve Ethridge asked if it would be acceptable if he spread the word around about the workshop.

Steven Tomita said yes and asked when they would like to do this.

It was decided to hold this public workshop at our last meeting in August. The workshop will be held on August 31, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

OPEN COMMENTS/REQUESTS

There were no open comments/requests.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City of Belen Planning & Zoning Commission, Commissioner Gordon Reeves moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Debbie Thompson seconded the motion.

