

**CITY OF EYOTA
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 19, 2015**

Present: Members: Barry Karsjens, Janet Hughes, Lief Hughes and Casey Johnson
Council Rep Ray Schuchard Secretary: Marlis Knowlton

Absent: Member Chad Ohl and Council Rep Bryan Cornell

Call to Order: Chair Barry Karsjens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Motion was made by Lief Hughes and seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition of Dollar General zoning question and discuss bees. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion was made by Janet Hughes and seconded by Johnson to approve the October 15, 2015 regular meeting and the October 29, 2015 special meeting minutes. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Dollar General Zoning: Dollar General inquired what the allowed set back distances are for front and back yards. The question is what would the front or back yard be when the front door is proposed to be on an angle in the corner of the building and facing the opposite direction as the driveway entrances. The Commission agreed the front and back yards could be determined by the City and setbacks would be determined accordingly. The address may be XX Canyon Drive NW based on the driveway access; Olmsted County Planning will assist in that decision. It appears there is sufficient space for setbacks no matter which direction is assigned as the front and back.

Bees: Knowlton requested the Commission review Ordinance #133 Animals in reference to a complaint regarding bees. Are bees, or should bees, be allowed in residential districts. Some Commission members remember discussing this recently, it was agreed bees were not allowed. The Commission acknowledged the importance of bees in nature. They also agreed that bees are not pets, they are considered an agricultural animal and they are not allowed per the current ordinance. Bee sting risk increases with a hive versus wild bees naturally in the vicinity. Citizens should feel safe in their own backyard.

Motion was made by Lief Hughes and seconded by Janet Hughes to confirm bees are not allowed in town and recommends the City does not add bees to the list of allowed animals and does not recommend changing the ordinance. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Commission did agree that it should be acceptable to allow the bees currently be harbored in town to be moved in late winter or early spring versus immediately.

Public Dances Ordinance: The Commission reviewed the existing public dance ordinance and examples from other cities. State law (Minn. Stat. § 412.221) no longer requires a license and police protection for public dances; cities do still have the authority to regulate public dances.

The Commission discussed many scenarios of indoor and outdoor dances. They agreed the City should regulate outdoor dances, not indoor dances. Indoor dance issues such as insurance or security should be the responsibility of the facility operator. Many outdoor dance or events would be regulated by the nuisance or noise ordinance.

The Commission requested Knowlton draft a sample dance ordinance to include:

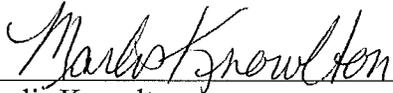
- regulate outdoor dances only
- require a permit; suggested fee \$25 (fee should cover administrative/staff costs)
- shut down no later than 12:30 a.m.; no matter what type of entertainment: DJ/band/radio/etc.
- everybody will be required to obtain a permit: bars, event centers, private parties, etc.
- a permit will be required for every dance no matter how frequently
- include a disclaimer to say the City has the right to refuse any applicant
- application form should be just the very basic information needed

The Commission did discuss the possibility of the City building some sort of pavilion in a park for outdoor events. When and if that happens, the City can deal with regulating dances through a park rental or pavilion rental policy.

Throughout the discussion of regulating dances, the nuisance ordinance was referred to or also discussed. The Commission requested that would be the next ordinance to review.

Other Business: none

Adjourn: Motion was made by Lief Hughes and seconded by Johnson to adjourn. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried. Meeting was declared adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Marlis Knowlton
Clerk/Treasurer