

**CITY OF EYOTA
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
MARCH 31, 2015**

Present: Members: Barry Karsjens, Chad Ohl and Janet Hughes
Council Reps: Ray Schuchard and Bryan Cornell Secretary: Marlis Knowlton

Absent: none

Call to Order: Chair Barry Karsjens called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Hughes to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion was made by Hughes and seconded by Ohl to approve the October 16, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Public Hearing – Dover Eyota Ind. School District Conditional Use Permit:

Conditional Use Permit request submitted by Dover Eyota Independent School District #533 for the building addition to the Dover-Eyota Elementary School located at 27 Knowledge Road SW. See "Exhibit A"

Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Hughes to close the regular meeting. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hughes and seconded by Ohl to open the public hearing. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Attending: Bruce Klaehn, Superintendent of Schools and Von Petersen, TSP Architect

Chair Karsjens explained this hearing is to take comments regarding a required conditional use permit for the planned addition on to the existing elementary school building. The elementary school is on AG zoning (Agriculture District) located at: Dover Eyota Ind. School District 533, 62.14.13.028617, City Lands 106-12-14, 27 Knowledge Road SW.

There were no written comments received. There were no comments from the public in attendance. It was noted that the original public hearing was scheduled on March 16 but was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. There were a few residents in attendance on March 16, but stated they were there out of curiosity and to understand the process; they did not have any official comments or concerns.

Motion was made by Hughes and seconded by Ohl to close the public hearing. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Hughes to open the regular meeting. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Commission spoke with the representatives from the School. Requirements of the zoning ordinance were reviewed and found to be met.

It was brought up that construction trucks have the potential to damage city streets. It could be requested the School help financially repair any street damage caused specifically by the construction. The area of concern would be Knowledge Road, specifically the short distance between 125 Avenue SE and County Road 142. The Commission would leave this up to the Council.

Finding of Facts:

1. The application for a conditional use permit for construction of the school addition meets all requirements per the City of Eyota Zoning Ordinance #53, Section 11.10.
2. The addition is within the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance regarding: loading dock, traffic, employee parking, off-street loading and all other conditions noted in the ordinance.
3. The addition will continue to be harmonious with the neighborhood, as is the original structure.
4. There were no comments and no opposition received from the public; at the meeting or in writing.
5. Due to the nature of the size of the construction and current building and safety regulations beyond the City's zoning regulations, the Commission is confident construction regulations and safety measures will be followed without the need for additional conditions.
6. No conditions are recommended.

Motion was made by Hughes and seconded by Ohl to recommend to the City Council to approve the request for a conditional use permit from Dover Eyota Ind. School District 533 to build an addition on the elementary school with no special conditions. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

2015 Commission Chair and Co-Chair: Motion was made by Hughes and seconded by Ohl for the Chair Karsjens and Co-Chair Ohl to remain the same in 2015. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Firearms Ordinance Review: The City received an inquiry if an indoor shooting range would be allowed. The current Firearms Ordinance #75 prohibits all shooting within city limits. The Economic Development Authority and Council requested the Commission review the 1994 ordinance. The Commission discussed a wide range of options regarding regulating firearms including: state building codes regulate indoor ranges, levels of liability insurance coverage, possible conditional use permit requirement, facility staffed or acceptable to just walk in, regulating crossbows, regulation of any kind of air powered apparatus and what do other cities do.

The Commission questioned what is the Council looking for; an amendment to the current ordinance to allow indoor ranges or to have the current ordinance rewritten and updated. Cornell stated the object is to update the ordinance, not just add an amendment if deemed appropriate. The Commission requested Knowlton inquire how some other cities regulate firearms and review it at the next meeting.

Other Business: Briefly discussed a possible event center downtown and what current regulations are in place for this type of activity.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Hughes to adjourn. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Motion carried. Meeting was declared adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Marlis Knowlton
Clerk/Treasurer