



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**

**APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

**5:30 p.m.  
VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor  
Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem  
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner  
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner  
Dee Merriam, Commissioner

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager  
Paul Hanebuth, Asst. City Manager  
Shannon Powell, Asst. City Manager  
Rebecca Long, Communications Manager  
Gina Hill, City Clerk  
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney  
Sara Hempen, Events Manager  
Ken Morris, Permitting Coordinator

Item #1 Meeting Called to Order

Item #2 Adoption of Agenda  
Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to adopt. Commissioner Laratte seconds. All ayes.

Item #3 **Public Hearing to Receive Comment on Conditional Use Permit Applications**

Two applications have been submitted to city staff. One is for an affordable senior housing development at 154 Olive Street and 2804/2816 Franklin Street. The other is for a yoga studio at 2855 Washington Street.

The applicant for the senior housing development, Sarah Buckner, thanked city staff for their help. Lisa Cottrell voiced support for the project. Jan Hover asked that developers consider opening up the project for seniors with a higher income. She also asked about security and what adjacent businesses think. City Manager Bryant clarified that this hearing was only concerning the use for that property and not the specific project or details. Moreover, it's for comments and not questions. There were no comments on the yoga studio application.

Item #4 **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Shortell commented on the amount of tree removal recently. She felt it was time to revisit the goals and expectations of the tree ordinance. Commissioner Merriam agreed and would like the topic discussed at an upcoming work session. Ms. Merriam also had concerns about the new zoning code. Commissioner Laratte also shared concern for the tree canopy. He gave an update on the Welcoming Committee. Mayor Elmore gave his condolences to the family of local business owner, Abby Schonier-Marcuse, who passed away recently. He added that he's anxious to pass the new zoning code and will also add trees to the next meeting agenda. City Manager Bryant noted that the zoning code was not being discussed tonight because it's being reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Board. More discussion can follow after their review.

Item #5

**Approval of Minutes**

February 24<sup>th</sup> work session

March 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting

March 3<sup>rd</sup> work session

March 24<sup>th</sup> regular meeting

March 24<sup>th</sup> work session

Commissioner Shortell motioned to approve. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher seconded. All ayes.

Item #6

**Conditional Use Permit Applications**

See item #4 for description.

Commissioner Laratte motioned to approve the application for the senior living facility. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher seconded. All ayes. Commissioner Laratte and resident Keith Melton both spoke in support of having this type of housing in the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moved to approve the application for a yoga studio. Commissioner Laratte seconded. All ayes.

Item #7

**Little Cottage Brewery & Savage Pizza Patio Sales Applications**

These two businesses have applied to sell alcohol in their outdoor spaces.

Savage Pizza has had a change of ownership and the patio sales licenses are not transferable.

Commissioner Shortell motioned to approve the application for Little Cottage Brewery. Commissioner Laratte seconded. All ayes.

Commissioner Laratte motioned to approve the application for Savage Pizza. Commissioner Shortell seconded. All ayes.

Item #8

**Extension of Project Manager's Contract**

Staff seeks to extend Carolyn Rader's contract to coincide with the timeline of the North Woods project that she is overseeing.

Commissioner Merriam moved to approve. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher seconded. All ayes.

Item #9

Public Comment

Lisa Cottrell asked to get police reform on an upcoming agenda. Her group, Avondale Alliance for Racial Justice, is anxious for changes. City Manager Bryant told Ms. Cottrell that city staff was open to meeting with the AARJ to discuss goals and other issues. She urged the group to hire a consultant to work with the police and adopt 21<sup>st</sup> century policing methods. Stacey Bearden thanked the BOMC for addressing issues with the tree canopy.

Item #10

Adjournment

Mayor Elmore motioned to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher seconded. All ayes.

**MINUTES APPROVED 5.26.2021**



**GINA HILL, CITY CLERK**