

**City of New London
Planning Commission Minutes
August 27th, 2020**

Call to Order:

The August 27th, 2020 Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Besaw at 5:00 PM.

Roll Call:

Those in attendance were Chairman Besaw, Bessette, Gabert, Steingraber, and Mayor Herter.

Noel and Spilman – excused

Others in attendance: Chad Hoerth (Director of Public Services), Gerald Reger and Gwinette Zielke

The Commission was informed that Cindy Goller recently resigned from the commission as her family has moved out of New London.

Adopt Agenda:

Motion by Gabert, second by Steingraber to adopt the agenda. Motion carried 5/0.

Approval of the June 25th, 2020 Planning Commission Minutes:

Motion by Herter, second by Bessette to approve the June 25, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5/0

Plan Review- Kwik Trip North

A copy of design plans for the north side Kwik Trip building was presented to the commission. The plans include demoing and modifying some of the interior kitchen space, adding additional square footage for a new cooler/freezer and removing one parking stall. The intent is to start work on the project in October of this year.

Motion by Gabert, second by Steingraber to approve plans as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

Variance Request for Accessory Structure Height at 2411 Cty Rd DD

Gerald Reger, owner of the property at 2411 Cty Rd DD, is requesting to build an accessory structure having a proposed height of 21'-8" which exceeds the maximum height of 15' as described in the city's municipal code. Reger approached the commission requesting a variance of the maximum height as he modified his current house to allow his mother in law to live with his family and they need the accessory structure for additional storage. The consensus of the commission was that due to the location of the parcel on the outskirts of the city and that Reger had no nearby neighbors, that the proposed height should not pose any issues.

Motion by Gabert, second by Steingraber to approve the height variance as requested. Motion carried 5/0.

Wolf River Art League - Downtown Murals

The Commission discussed several options for additional murals that the Wolf River Art League would like to create within the city. Discussion took place at the previous commission meeting whether or not to allow murals to be painted on the front (address facing) side of the downtown buildings. After discussion the consensus was to not allow murals on the front facing side as it would conflict with the intent of the downtown district guidelines. The commission also previously reviewed an option to paint the downtown river wall and the base of the State Farm building, both locations touch the river in normal and high water situations. Hoerth contacted the DNR regarding these proposals and reported back that the DNR didn't say that these areas couldn't be painted, but if any paint would be spilled in the river some sort of remedial action would need to take place. In the event that the ice starts to scour or chip away at the paint, the city would need to take action to prevent and possibly remove the mural to prevent the flaking paint to pollute the river. Pollution insurance should be obtained by either the city or the Wolf River Art League. The consensus was that the city would not want to take on that liability. The last proposal was to paint new murals on the east side of 408 North Water Street (C&R Water Front Bar) depicting two veteran and patriotic themed murals. The commission felt that they would rather see one mural on the side of the building instead of two.

Motion by Gabert, second by Herter to approve one mural on the east side of the C&R Water Front Bar. Motion carried. 5/0

Update on Planning Issues and other Agenda Items:

Hoerth informed the commission of a complaint the Building Inspector was investigating concerning several potential violations of the municipal code regarding a new accessory structure on Washington Street.

Brief discussion took place on several residential structures being built and the status of the London Acres sub development.

Mayor Herter discussed making a future appointment at the next council meeting to fill the open seat on the commission.

Other Matters:

Next meeting is scheduled for September 24th, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Herter, second by Bessette.

Meeting adjourned by Besaw at 5:31 pm.