

**Harris Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 25, 2023**

- I. **Call to Order** - Chairman Siedow called the Planning Commission to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** - All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call** - City Clerk Shannon Geier conducted roll call. Present were Chairman Al Siedow, Commissioner Sheri Denny, Commissioner Haley Peabody, Commissioner Jeff Borash, and Commissioner Neil Elmquist. City Clerk Geier announced a quorum was present.
- IV. **Consent Agenda**- Elmquist made a motion to approve the August 28, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Public Hearing** – 2023-06 Natural and Native Landscaping Ordinance: The public hearing opened at 7:01 pm. There were no comments or questions. The public hearing closed at 7:02 pm.
- VI. **Regular Agenda** – City Planner Claire Michelson was present to discuss and answer questions on each of the ordinances under consideration.
 - A. **2023-06 Natural and Native Landscaping Ordinance** - Borash made a motion to forward Ordinance #2023-06 to the City Council for consideration and final approval. Elmquist seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. **Recreational Vehicles – Code Enforcement information with Sergeant Stenson** – Sergeant Stenson from Chisago County Sheriff's Department was present to answer questions the Commissioners had concerning code enforcement issues with which they are currently noticing. Stenson did not know the answers to the questions asked but made suggestions on where the Clerk could check for more information. Geier reminded the Commissioners that if they intend to regulate RV's, there are multiple situations to consider. Current known uses are living in RV while building a house, using RV as weekend retreat, and using RV's as permanent residences. The Commissioners directed Geier to gather information from our attorney and other cities as to their suggestions for dealing with abatement of unlawful use of RV's.
 - C. **Review Micro units on Sacred communities & religious properties ordinance changes** – Michelson asked the Commissioners for their input on what they want this new ordinance required by the State of Minnesota to look like. It was decided that the best option was to use the language from the state statute to develop the Harris ordinance, require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), and then add any other regulations as determined to the CUP. Michelson stated there are several other sections of the Harris Code that will need amendments such as the zoning. She will develop rough drafts for the Commissioners to consider.

- D. **Review the moratorium Solar Ordinance** – A public hearing will be held at the next Planning Commission meeting on the Solar Moratorium Ordinance. Once the moratorium is in place, the Commissioners will begin working on a Solar Ordinance. Geier provided multiple examples of solar ordinances for the Commissioners to review before the next meeting.
- E. **Cannabis in public spaces** – Now that cannabis is legal, Harris needs to decide if cannabis should be allowed in public spaces. The consensus of the Commissioners was that no smoking should be allowed on public owned properties. The Clerk will bring examples of ordinances from other cities to the next meeting for discussion.
- F. **Comprehensive Plan** – Geier provided the Transportation System Plan section from the Comprehensive Plan for the Commissioners to review before the next meeting.

VII. Commissioner Reports – There were no Commissioner reports. Council and Park & Recreation reports were reviewed.

VIII. Adjourn – Peabody made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

City Clerk – Shannon Geier

Allen Siedow - Chair

Date Approved