



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 02, 2025

4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof a Regular Meeting of the Grand Rapids Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 4:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers, 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

CALL OF ROLL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Betsy Johnson
Commissioner Patrick Goggin
Commissioner Amanda Lamppa
Commissioner David Marquardt
Commissioner David Kreitzer

ABSENT

Commissioner Paul Bignall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Consider approval of the August 7th, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Goggin, second by Commissioner Kreitzer to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2025 regular meeting. The following voted in favor thereof: Johnson, Marquardt, Goggin, Lamppa, Kreitzer. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2. Consider a recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to Chapters 14 and 30 of the Municipal Code with reference to production licensed cannabis business zoning.

Zoning Administrator Richter provided the background information.

Council adopted Article 14 of the City Code to regulate cannabis businesses on 10-28-2024. At that time, Article 14-187 established licensed retail cannabis businesses as a permitted use in CBD, GB, and SGB zoning. The State of Minnesota is beginning to grant licenses for cannabis businesses involved in cultivation, processing/extraction, manufacturing, and wholesale activities - subject to city zoning approval therefore the city must consider zoning requirements for those businesses. State law does not restrict how a local government conducts its zoning designations for cannabis businesses, except that they may not prohibit the establishment or operation of a cannabis business. The Council must choose where to permit cannabis production and related activities within the city.

Staff recommends licensed cannabis businesses engaging in the cultivation, processing / extraction, manufacturing, and wholesale activities be allowed as permitted uses in Agricultural, Industrial Business Park / Shoreland Industrial Business Park, or General Industrial Park / Shoreland Industrial Park districts subject to cannabis business security requirements of Minnesota Administrative Rules 9810.1500. The Minnesota Administrative Rules for cannabis businesses are included in your packet and detail the physical security measures required.

The Commissioners reviewed the considerations for the record:

1. Will the change affect the character of neighborhoods?
Why/Why not? No, the use will fit with the zoning designation and the processes will mostly take place indoors.
2. Would the change foster economic growth in the community?
Why/Why not? Yes, it will allow for business expansion.
3. Would the proposed change be in keeping with the spirit and intent of the ordinance?
Why/Why not? Yes, it aligns with the definition of uses in industrial parks.
4. Would the change be in the best interest of the general public?
Why/Why not? Yes, it will create jobs and tax base.
5. Would the change be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan?
Why/Why not? Yes, it will allow for economic development.

Motion by Commissioner Goggin, second by Commissioner Johnson that, based on the finding of fact presented here today, and in the public's best interest, the Planning Commission does hereby forward a favorable recommendation to the City Council regarding draft amendments to 30-421 Definitions, 30-512 Table 1 Permitted Uses, and 14-187(a) Zoning and Land Use. The following voted in favor thereof: Kreitzer, Lamppa, Goggin, Marquardt, Johnson. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Individuals may address the Planning Commission about any non-public hearing item or any item not included on the Regular Meeting Agenda. Speakers are requested to come to the podium, state their name and address for the record and limit their remarks to three (3) minutes.

There was no input from the public.

MISCELLANEOUS:

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 6, 2025 AT 4:00 PM.

Hearing Assistance Available: This facility is equipped with a ready assistance system.

ATTEST: Aurimy Groom, Administrative Assistant