



CITY OF  
**GRAND RAPIDS**  
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, September 02, 2021**  
**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, September 2, 2021 at 4:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers, 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

CALL OF ROLL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Betsy Johnson  
Commissioner Lester Kachinske  
Commissioner Patrick Goggin  
Commissioner Ted Hubbes  
Chairperson Molly MacGregor

ABSENT

Commissioner Anita Eiden  
Commissioner Mark Gothard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021, 4:00 pm regular meeting, and the June 3, 2021, 4:00 pm Worksession.

Motion by Commissioner Goggin, second By Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes from the May 6th, 2021 regular meeting and the June 3rd, 2021 worksession. The following voted in favor thereof: Johnson, Kachinske, MacGregor, Goggin, Hubbes. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2. Consider a recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to the Zoning Ordinance that would update and amend multiple sections of Chapter 30 *Land Development Regulations*.

Community Development Specialist Trast provided a power point detailing the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

On May 6, 2021 the Planning Commission formally initiated this review process, and formed a subcommittee of three Commissioners to work with staff on further developing potential amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance, which would then be presented to the full Planning Commission for review and recommendation to the City Council.

Generally, the Planning Commission initiated amendments pertained to the following areas/sections of the Zoning Ordinance:

Motion by Commissioner Johnson, second by Commissioner Hubbes that, based on the findings 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, which update and amend multiple sections of Chapter 30 *Land Development Regulations*, as depicted in Exhibits "1" – "5".

With the following considerations:

1. Will the change affect the character of neighborhoods?

Why/Why not? No, it is just updating and modernizing the ordinance.

2. Would the change foster economic growth in the community?

Why/Why not? Yes, because it will allow for grower stands and salons.

3. Would the proposed change be in keeping with the spirit and intent of the ordinance?

Why/Why not? Yes, by keeping orderly development and public safety.

4. Would the change be in the best interest of the general public?

Why/Why not? Yes, for public safety and convenience.

5. Would the change be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan?

Why/Why not? Yes, it will update the ordinance so it is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

The following voted in favor thereof: Johnson, Kachinske, Hubbes, MacGregor, Hubbes. Opposed: None, 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.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. Trast updated the Commissioners on the progress of the Pillars, Aurora Heights, Unique Opportunity Apartments, Starbucks and the new hotel.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:

ADJOURNMENT:

NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 7, 2021 AT 4:00 PM.

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

ATTEST:

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Aurimy Groom, Recorder