

January 23, 2018

The Gladwin City Planning Commission met in regular session January 23, 2018. The meeting was called at order at 5:15pm by Chair Darlington and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present; Auer, David, Darlington, Czape, English, Emeott.
Commissioners absent; Clayton, Stout and Wendell.

Also present; Zoning Administrator Weaver, N. Bodnar, D. Jungman and Planner Doug Piggott.

Motion by Auer, support by English to approve minutes of the December 18, 2017 meeting. All ayes.

Doug Piggott was introduced by Darlington. He was asked to discuss solar farms and electronic signs in residential neighborhoods as he serves as the planning advisor to the committee. Both of these issues are likely to come before the Planning Commission in the coming months. Weaver arranged for this training at the request of the Planning commissioners. As to solar farms one approach is to look at type and where you want them to go. Types would be, building mounted and ground mounted-on site uses, or a commercial solar energy system, facility/solar farm. Identify zoning districts and type to be allowed. Then decide which uses would require a special land use permit, which might be allowed as accessory structures and conditions for same.

There were questions from the commissioners about various aspects of the matters and Piggott provided examples from other ordinances that are already in place. He summarized by saying that most of our questions will revolve around where to allow, whether screening and what type is appropriate, how many, what sizes and any other site plan requirements are appropriate.

Piggott then talked about his experiences in other municipalities and how sign ordinances treat the matter of electronic signs in residential neighborhoods. Some do not allow period. Others can be quite specific as to size, colors that may not be allowed, and other conditions of use a Commission may decide are appropriate. Weaver had asked him to address this because she is aware the issue may be coming before the Planning Commission at some future time. Darlington thanked Piggott for attending the meeting and providing an excellent educational presentation.

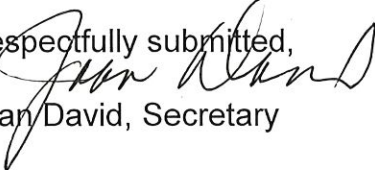
Darlington then updated the commissioners about the Capital Improvements Plan meeting where Stout, Darlington, David and Weaver met to review the upcoming city budget and prepare a capital plan for the City Council. The commissioners were provided copies and Darlington answered questions.

Darlington then gave the commissioners the results of a lighting study prepared by Consumers Energy for the area along Clendening Road. Fortunately, the cost at about \$6,000 is less than anticipated.

Weaver then provided a letter from Doug Piggot offering to assist the Planning Commission with a draft of an annual report, as required under the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, to the City Council. The purpose of such a report is to help the Council remain aware of the business of the Commission and plans for any budgeting needs of the Planning Commission. Piggot provided a sample of such a report.

Weaver also referred to a schedule of training sessions that are upcoming in the next few months. The commissioners were asked to let her know if there were any who would like to participate. Darlington and Weaver then mentioned offering Gladwin as a site for programs in the future. There was a brief discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan David, Secretary