

THE PLAN COMMISSION
MINUTES OF AUGUST 29, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. A quorum was present. Chairman James Caporusso, Teresa Badillo, Karen Special, Carla Argueta, William Thorn, Patrick Ainsworth (Planner for the Department of Community Development), Police Chief Witz, and Lisa Manzo (Secretary). Absent: Patricia Letarte and Giuliano Petrucci.
3. Member Special made a motion to accept the minutes of July 25, 2012 as presented. Member Badillo seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.
4. New Business: Continuation of discussion of parking strategies for CM District (Pacific Avenue/Franklin Avenue)

Mr. Ainsworth continued discussions regarding this area of the Village. He updated the members by going over the “Commercial Manufacturing District Existing Off-Street Parking Requirements Grid”. He continued by stating that according to the study that was conducted, there were a total of 1,007 parking spaces.

Mr. Ainsworth reiterated the four (4) ideas that the members would like to see expounded upon in priority order as follows:

1. Re-assess parking land use/timing requirements (short and long term)
2. Leasing program for the public. (right of way) (acknowledge that it is public right of way)
3. Private Off-Street Parking; database.
4. Municipally owned parking lots.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed various zoning codes and going over “minimum parking requirements” vs. “maximum parking requirements”.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed that the next step in his research would be to conduct a Geographical Presentation and talk about the vacancy list.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed the Metra parking lot and mentioned that it would be beneficial to have one (1) parking area vs. several parking areas throughout the Village.

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The members asked what will become of the old Police Station. Mr. Ainsworth stated that the intention is to demolish the existing police station and convert it to green space.

Mr. Ainsworth updated the members that the relations between both the Building and Zoning Departments have been dramatically increased. Communication and protocol has been successful and its continuation for a long time to come.

Chairman Caporusso opened this meeting to the public at this time, however there was no public in attendance. Public session was closed at this time.

5. Old Business: Parking Plan, Subarea #2, Chestnut Avenue Parking Plan/Study, Subarea, #3-A Reeves Court to Franklin Avenue Metra Station, Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #3-B, South Downtown, Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #4- Grand Avenue Business District, Hawthorne to 25th Street. Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #6, South Grand Avenue Residential Area, Occupancy/New Business Requirements.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed that these items on the agenda be continued to the meeting of Wednesday, September 26, 2012. He continued that he still working avidly with these items and would like more time to prepare more information to present to the members.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed that the Occupancy/New Business requirements be moved to the meeting of September 26, 2012 as well. He mentioned that the current Occupancy Packet that the Building/Zoning Department is using has been streamlined greatly to become more business friendly. Lisa Manzo distributed the new occupancy packet to the members to have a look at it.

Mr. Ainsworth discussed that he is going over the new business and occupancy requirement from other Villages to create a database for the Village.

Mr. Ainsworth reminded the members to take the on-line Open Meetings Act Training. For existing members, they will have until the end of the calendar year to complete this course.

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Mr. Ainsworth discussed other projects going on within the Village at this time.

6. Member Special made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Plan Commission. It was seconded by Member Badillo. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Manzo
Secretary