

**TOWN OF MILLIKEN
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING HOUSE, 1201 BROAD STREET**

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 04, 2011 7:00 P.M.

The Planning Commission of Milliken convened into a meeting on the 4th day of May, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Chairman Dave Bernhardt, Commissioners: James Anthony, Janet Carter, Jordan Jemiola, Linda Measner, Dave Watson and Tim Woodcock. Also present: Community Development Director Steve House, and Town Co-Clerk Betty Rangel.

Chairman Bernhardt called the meeting to order and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

Commissioner Anthony nominated Commissioner Measner for Chair. Commissioner Jemiola seconded the nomination.

Hearing no further nominations, the nominations were closed.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed. Commissioner Measner is the new Chair.

Commissioner Jemiola nominated Commissioner Woodcock for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Anthony seconded the Motion.

Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed. Commissioner Woodcock is the new Vice-Chair.

Agenda Approval

The agenda was approved as presented.

Citizens Comments

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes for the April 20th, 2011 meeting approved as distributed.

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items on the Consent Agenda

ACTION AGENDA

Public Hearing on Amendments to Article 7, Chapter 16 of the Milliken Municipal Code– Political/Election Signs

Director House explained that the public hearing is to review, discuss and recommend approval or denial to the Town Board of Trustees on amendments to Article 7, Chapter 16 of the Milliken Municipal code with regard to extending the time prior to an election when political signs can be displayed, from 45 days to 65 days.

The public hearing was opened at 7:07 p.m.

Discussion, comments, questions and concerns included the following;

- Election signs would be out longer with the concern that signs could be windblown and create a nuisance
- It extends the campaigning season which people get tired of
- A suggestion was made to add the section number in regard to the “sight distance triangle at intersections”.
- An inquiry was made as to what the timeline is for mail-in ballots
- 25-45 days is more than adequate time for posting of political signs
- If there had been complaints in regard to the amount of time for posting

Director House explained that Town Co-Clerk Cheryl Powell had done some research in regard to the citizen’s call and given the information she received, she believed that increasing the 45 days limitation to 65 days to allow for the increase in the number of citizens utilizing the mail-in-ballot option should provide a sufficient amount of time for the displaying of the political signs during an election. The removal of signs within seven (7) days after the election, which is what our code currently states, would remain the same.

The public hearing was closed at 7:33 p.m.

Commissioner Anthony moved to recommend denial to the Board of Trustees for the amendments to Article 7, Chapter 16 of the Milliken Municipal Code with regard to political/election signs. Approval was recommended for changing the grammar and adding a section number referencing to the last sentence of paragraph 7.4. Commissioner Bernhardt seconded the motion.

Discussion: There was none.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

END OF ACTION AGENDA

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Commissioner Jemiola reported that Chairman Measner and he attended a prayer breakfast at Embassy Suites.

END OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

Other Business

Director House discussed the Town Board's charge to Planning Commission in regard to Parking, some of the comments, concerns and questions included the following;

- More rear parking instead of parking facing Broad street
- Long range plan
- Towns current parking code

Director House went over a work plan he has prepared, which includes the following in regard to parking;

- Data collection
- present demand
- Are the locations appropriate?
- Magnitude of the problem? Present and future concerns.
- Guidelines other towns have used?
- Related issues? Example signage, safety, street image
- Redefine downtown
- Zoning?
- Input from Business community
- Final recommendation to the Board

Commissioner Anthony requested copy of current code and land available for their review.

Director House commented that the U.S. Postal Service has begun a program called Delivery Unit Optimization that attempts to streamline sorting and delivery operations in order to generate cost savings by consolidating work at larger postal facilities around the nation. Other than retail postal services, the operation of postal boxes and pick-up of letters and packages, all other postal operations will be shifted to Johnstown effective July 15, 2011.

Town Administrator Burack was present and commented that a resolution is being drafted to go before the Board in support of keeping the rural delivery service here in Milliken.

Unfinished Business There was none.


Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Prepared by:

Approved by:


Beatriz Rangel, Town Co-Clerk


Chairman, Linda L. Measner