

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on January 26, 2015. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the City Building, 124 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth, Indiana. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Senter led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Delp offered prayer.

Mayor Senter presided for Council Members Delp, Culp, Ecker and Smith. City Engineer Gaul, City Attorney Surrisi and Clerk-Treasurer Xaver were also present. Councilman Grobe was absent.

Councilmen Delp and Culp moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of January 12, 2015, and to dispense with reading them since they have been reviewed and found to be correct. The motion carried.

Councilman Delp raised discussion on the pole building construction at 109 Baker Street.

Judd Rouch, owner of 109 Baker Street, addressed the council.

City Attorney Surrisi noted that as our ordinances are now, there is nothing prohibiting this type of construction within the corporate limits.

Surrisi said the general assembly is hearing bills that address building codes, one of which proposes to prohibit cities from passing any ordinances that would require more stringent standards than the state building codes. He said that was heard on first reading last week and was referred to the Government Regulation and Reform Committee, which Representative Tim Harmon sits on.

Ecker said he shares the concerns of decreasing property values for neighboring properties.

Beverly Ault, 107 Baker Street, said she is upset that her property will depreciate in value.

Councilman Delp said that he has spoken to four adjacent homeowners who are all opposed to this type of construction.

Surrisi addressed the council regarding the appointment of alternates to the Board of Zoning Appeals, as allowed by state statute.

Councilmen Ecker and Smith moved and seconded to appoint Fred Webster as their alternate appointment. The motion carried.

Mayor Senter appointed Greg Compton as his alternate appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilmen Delp and Smith moved and seconded to approve Senter's appointment of Compton. The motion carried.

City Attorney Surrisi addressed the council regarding the property at 113 Water Street. He said that Josh Walker is interested in opening a brewery at the property and that Walker had been proceeding with the understanding that the property was within the Downtown National Historic District, but that district ends in the alley right behind the building. Surrisi said that having that historic district designation would make it possible for Walker to locate the brewery at 113 Water Street; without the designation, it is not a suitable site for the brewery. Surrisi said that another possibility under state code is that if the city establishes its own Historic Preservation Commission, that commission can make a local historic designation, with the idea that the 113 Water Street property can be designated as a single building historic district that would then allow for the brewery to get under way. Surrisi said that Kurt Garner is hoping to bring the neighborhood into the National Registry District in due time, but the federal processes work a lot slower than the city can to help this up-start business.

Kurt Garner explained that the state and the national park service sets criteria for a building to be contributing to a National Historic District. He said that it often takes eighteen months just to expand the boundaries on a district. The proposed boundary expansion just bumps over to Water Street between Garro and LaPorte Streets to take in that half block. The state has verified that they would find that area eligible to be included in the downtown district, but wants to know if there are other buildings adjacent to the current district boundaries that might make sense to bring in at this time.

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2015-2084, An Ordinance of the City of Plymouth to Establish the Plymouth Historic Preservation Commission, on first reading.

Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2015-2085, An Ordinance of the City of Plymouth to Establish the Beyler-Volpert Historic District, on first reading.

Mr. Walker thanked City Attorney Surrisi and Mr. Garner for their work and help in this process and the administration for considering the ordinances.

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance No. 2015-2084 on all three readings.

Councilmen Ecker and Culp moved and seconded to pass Ordinance No. 2015-2084, An Ordinance of the City of Plymouth to Establish the Plymouth Historic Preservation Commission, on second reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Delp, Culp, Ecker and Smith
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Grobe

Councilmen Smith and Culp moved and seconded to pass Ordinance No. 2015-2084, An Ordinance of the City of Plymouth to Establish the Plymouth Historic Preservation Commission, on third reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Delp, Culp, Ecker and Smith
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Grobe

Mayor Senter offered the privilege of the floor to audience members. No one accepted.

Clerk-Treasurer Xaver asked the council to ratify the Board of Works decision to waive the returned check fee for Mrs. Sterling as decided at the meeting earlier this evening.

Councilmen Ecker and Smith ratified the decision of the Board of Works and Safety to waive the returned check fee for Mrs. Sterling. The motion carried.

Councilmen Ecker and Delp moved and seconded to accept the following communications: Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of January 12, 2015; Minutes of the Redevelopment Commission meeting of December 16, 2014; and the Board of Aviation Commissioners meeting of December 9, 2014. The motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Culp and Smith moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried; the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

S/Jeanine M. Xaver
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

S/Mark Senter, Mayor