

**CITY OF MANISTEE PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
70 Maple Street
Manistee, MI 49660**

**MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2019**

A meeting of the Manistee City Planning Commission Public Hearing was held on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7 pm in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Wittlieff followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rochelle Thomas, Michael Szymanski, Bob Slawinski, Marlene McBride, Roger Yoder, Pamela Weiner and Mark Wittlieff

Members Absent: None

Others: Kyle Storey (City Zoning Administrator), Robert Carson (Planning & Zoning Director), Nancy Baker (Recording Secretary)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Szymanski, seconded by Commissioner Slawinski that the agenda be approved as prepared.

With a Roll Call vote this motion passed 7 to 0.

Yes: Slawinski, Szymanski, Thomas, Yoder, Weiner, McBride and Wittlieff

No: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing for the Marihuana Proposed Amendments to Article 2, Article 3, Article 18 and Article 20.

MOTION by Commissioner Slawinski, seconded by Commissioner Yoder to open the Public Hearing.

With a Roll Call vote this motion passed 7 to 0.

Yes: Slawinski, Szymanski, Thomas, Yoder, Weiner, McBride and Wittlieff

No: None

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:03 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA RELATED ITEMS

Bob Miehke, 3610 Chippewa Hwy, owner of 91 Arthur Street, requested the zoning overlay amendment include his property at 91 Arthur Street, which is directly across the street from the present proposed overlay zone area.

Keith Zielinski, 5830 Eight Mile Rd, Onekama, stated he is in full support of the ordinance, he and his business partner have the old Stefano's building on contract and asked the Commission to consider using the merit base

system for the application process.

Mr. Carson stated the Planning Department received some public correspondences regarding the proposed zoning amendments for recreational marihuana and specific amendments pertaining to provision centers and medical marihuana.

Mr. Carson read the correspondence letters from the following residents:

Bruce and Julie Matthews, 63 Arthur Street; Dan and Gale Zielinski, 35 Arthur Street; Daniel Miessner, 165 Joslin Cove Drive; Dave and Lisa Sweebe, 65 Arthur Street; Galen and Pamela Hull, 59 Arthur Street; Jim Henderson, 57 Arthur Street and Stephanie M. Wood, 53 Arthur Street.

OLD BUSINESS RELATED TO THE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Carson read the marihuana Proposed Zoning Amendments for Article 2, Article 3, Article 18 and Article 20.

MOTION by Commissioner Slawinski, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to close the Public Hearing.

With a Roll Call vote this motion passed 7 to 0.

Yes: Slawinski, Szymanski, Thomas, Yoder, Weiner, McBride and Wittlieff

No: None

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:38 pm.

Thad Taylor, City Manager, stated a marihuana statute guidance was used to determine the overlay.

Tim Kozal, Director of Public Safety, stated there is nothing specific lined out regarding background checks for applicants, this will be investigated, but the applicants will have to go through the state process.

MOTION by Commissioner Szymanski, seconded by Commissioner Yoder to adopt the amendments for Article 2, Article 3, Article 18 and Article 20 as written and read.

The Planning Commission stated the following regarding the marihuana subject: all available properties in Manistee were looked at; they looked at an area that had a fairly low density of housing with no schools in the vicinity; the industrial area was looked at, but no parcels were available; the overlay area is at the far northern part of the city and is already zoned commercial with light industrial; they are aware this is a high traffic area however this area will keep the businesses highly visible; local patrols can easily be done by the State Police, County Sheriff's Department, the City Police Department, the Tribal Police and the DNR; this will be a legal and controlled situation unlike marihuana grown in a home.

With a Roll Call vote this motion passed 7 to 0.

Yes: Slawinski, Szymanski, Thomas, Yoder, Weiner, McBride and Wittlieff

No: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Chris Jackson, Ypsilanti, is a business partner with Mr. Zielinski. They have had a fully licensed dispensary business in Ypsilanti since 2012. The statute has been around since 2008. Since their opening of their business they have had zero (0) law enforcement issues and Michigan law requires security measures be taken. He would like the merit system to be used for the issuing of licenses because this allows for interviews to see who the people are, what they have to offer and can bring to the table, what their experience is relating to this type of business. Their goals are to better the community, be a good community partner and if done correctly can be a great opportunity for the area.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence.

STAFF

Chair Wittlieff stated he will be unable to attend the next City Planning Commission meeting. Vice Chair Slawinski will oversee the June meeting.


MEMBERS DISCUSSION

The Commission members welcomed Mr. Kyle Storey, the new City Zoning Administrator.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Yoder that the meeting be adjourned.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

MANISTEE PLANNING COMMISSION



Nancy Baker, Recording Secretary