

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION**
Regular Meeting Thursday, January 24, 2019

Donald Hendricks
Elizabeth Schulze
Jennifer O'Connell
Jeff Onell
James Rivord
Jim Sandquist
Mike Walters

1. Roll Call

Acting Chair Jim Sandquist called the Watertown Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2019, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Commission Members present: Donald Hendricks, Jennifer O'Connell, James Rivord, and Jim Sandquist. City Staff present: City Administrator Shane Fineran, Planning Consultant Mark Kaltsas and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Susan Hoese. Also present was Council liaison Mike Walters and residents Anthony & Camella Stucchi.

2. Adopt Agenda

RIVORD MOVED AND O'CONNELL SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, MOTION CARRIED.

3. New Business

A. Approve November 28th, 2018 Meeting Minutes

HENDRICKS MOVED AND RIVORD SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 29, 2018 MINUTES AS PRESENTED, MOTION CARRIED.

B. Commission Officer Selection

SANDQUIST MOVED AND RIVORD SECONDED A MOTION TO ELECT JAMES RIVORD AS CHAIR, MOTION CARRIED.

RIVORD MOVED AND HENDRICKS SECONDED A MOTION TO ELECT JIM SANDQUIST AS VICE CHAIR, MOTION CARRIED.

C. Outdoor Storage of Recreational Vehicles/Trailers/Boats

Kaltsas presented the request for preliminary discussion relating to recreational vehicle/equipment parking ordinance amendment. The City does not currently regulate outdoor parking of recreational vehicles/equipment on residential property. There is no regulation relating to the inside storage of recreational vehicles/equipment. The City does define and further regulates the operation of recreational vehicles within the City and on City streets, but this provision is not applicable to parking or storing of recreational vehicles/equipment.

The Planning Commission then discussed if the City should regulate outside parking and storage of recreational vehicles on residential property. Some typical considerations would be:

- Location on property – front, side, back
- How many recreational vehicles
- Type of surface if required – pervious, impervious
- How big – length & height
- Setbacks
- Screening

Some items discussed and comments were:

A seasonal parking limit – May through November and November through May but that would be difficult to monitor.

A person should have the right to park/store what he wants on his property, but the person living next door has rights to the enjoyment of his property.

How would the City police this and how would it be enforced?

Should try and figure out what the accepted “norm” is and set parameters.

It was decided the City should have some regulations in place. A starting point would be to allow parking/storage in the front yard, but only on the driveway and not extend into the City right-of-way. Allow parking/storage in the side and back yards would be regulated by the setbacks.

Kaltsas will come up with some language and present it at the next Planning Commission for more discussion.

City Administrator gave an update there is still a vacancy on the Planning Commission, the Forest Hills preliminary plat has been approved, Watertown is ranked 26th on the Hot Housing Market by Star Tribune, highest ranked in Carver County. Mobile 311 is an app that the staff is using to request work orders. Eventually the citizens will be able to log in and let the City know if there is a problem like potholes, water running down the street, etc. There will be a demonstration at the next Park and Planning Commission meetings.

4. Adjournment

RIVORD MOVED AND HENDRICKS SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, the Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Chair James Rivord

City Administrator Shane Fineran