

**CITY OF MONROE
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
Monday, October 26, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Monroe Planning Commission was held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom online meeting platform.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tuttle called the meeting to order at 7:04p.m.

ROLL CALL

Planning Commission Secretary Leigh Anne Barr called the roll.

Commissioners Present: Chair Tuttle, Vice-Chair Bull, Commissioner Jensen, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Fisher, and Commissioner Stanger

Commissioners Excused: Commissioner Nugent

Staff Present: Community Development Director Ben Swanson, Principal Planner Shana Restall, Public Works Director Brad Feilberg; and Planning Commission Secretary Leigh Anne Barr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Bloss

618 Riverview Dr
Monroe, WA 98272

Mr. Bloss is on the Human Services Advisory Board and is interested in the agenda for tonight's Planning Commission meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the minutes for October 12, 2020 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Bull. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. CPA2020-A – 2021-2026 City of Monroe Capital Facilities Plan

Chair Tuttle opened the public hearing at 7:09pm.

Community Development Director Ben Swanson that this is an annual comprehensive plan amendment that runs with the budget cycle. Director Swanson explained there is no requested action or recommendation from the Planning Commission tonight. The Commissioners asked questions of Staff.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to open the public testimony portion of the public hearing at 7:18pm. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bull. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Stanger asked Staff if any other communication was received as part of the public hearing. Staff answered that none was received.

Commissioner Stanger moved to close the public testimony portion of the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bull. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Stanger made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bull. Motion carried 6-0.

2. CPA2020-01 and CPA2020-02 – 2020-2021 Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Principal Planner Shana Restall let the Commission know this is a New Business introduction only, not a public hearing. Principal Planner Restall explained adopting the School District's capitol facilities plans is a housekeeping items that comes up every two years. The City will adopt the plans by reference and collect the school impact fees.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Proposed Code Amendments Regarding Temporary Homeless Encampments

Principal Planner Restall explained this discussion is for the permanent ordinance that will replace the interim ordinance that is currently in effect. Principal Planner Restall explained the process for the code adoption through City Council.

Commissioners discussed sections of the proposed code including:

- Restrictions to faith community only
- Changes from last meetings
- Use of space heaters

Chair Tuttle opened the floor to members of the public who are familiar with the topic to give a short statement and offer answers to any questions the Planning Commission may have.

Rachel Adams

149 S Kelsey St
Monroe, WA 98272

Ms. Adams gave a state that included the following topics:

- City's recent responses to homelessness.
- Congregations for the Homeless model in East Snohomish County
- Frequency and content of community meetings
- Facilitation of community meetings

Commissioners discussed sections of the proposed code including:

- The City's expected level of involvement
- Host of meetings
- Frequency of community meetings

Jim Bloss

618 Riverview Dr
Monroe, WA 98272

Mr. Bloss asked if the code could be adopted to include non-religious groups as well. Staff responded to the request.

Commissioners discussed sections of the proposed code including:

- Adding non-religious regulations as a separate section
- Addition of definitions for terms in this chapter
- Proximity to schools

James Harrigan

647 Pike St
Monroe, WA 98272

Mr. Harrigan reminded Commissioners that these codes are regulating how people can help the homeless in our community. Mr. Harrigan expressed his desire to limit the regulations as much as possible while maintaining health and safety.

Chair Tuttle requested a comparison between the state code and the proposed city code for later discussion.

The Commissioners discussed sections of the proposed code including:

- Setbacks from property lines
- Frequency of meetings
- Spacing for tents
- Time limits of encampments

Principal Planner Restall explained that the next step is taking the code to the Human Service Board.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Planning Commission Secretary Leigh Anne Barr reminded the Commissioners to do their required OPMA/PRA training. Secretary Barr asked if the Commissioners would like to cancel the December 28, 2020 meeting. The Commissioners agreed to cancel the meeting.

Commissioner Jensen asked Staff to activate the chat feature in the Zoom meetings.

Commissioner Stanger gave a Park Board update including the North Hill land acquisition and the Lake Tye turf fields.

Commissioner Bull asked Commissioner Stanger if he had any additional information about the Cadman site. Commissioner Stanger did not have any information.

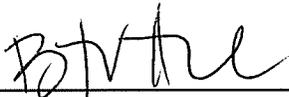
Commissioner Fisher expressed his appreciative for all the work the community has put into the homeless problem.

Director Swanson announced that the new business in the old Albertson's space will be opening next week.

Chair Tuttle gave an update on the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) and the Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB).

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bull moved to adjourn at 8:42pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Motion carried 6-0.



Bridgette Tuttle
Chair



Leigh Anne Barr
Planning Commission Secretary