



ELMWOOD PARK VILLAGE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
3131 Taylor Avenue, Bldg. 3, Racine, WI 53405  
December 1, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

*All agenda items shall follow protocol including staff overview, Board discussion, questions by public, Board disposition of item. The public must be recognized by the President.*

The meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Village President Mills. Present were Dave Cattoi, Pete Clouthier, Brad Jaeck, Tom Mills, Mike Burks, Ellis Steiner, Leif Peterson, and Clerk-Treasurer Tammy Ruggaber. Absent was Pat Tierney.

President Mills asks if there is anyone that wants to make a public comment and no one did.

The Planning Commission reviews the minutes from the prior meeting on November 2. Commissioner Peterson makes a motion to approve the minutes and it is seconded by Commissioner Cattoi. The minutes are approved unanimously.

The first order of business was regarding the ordinance restricting planting of certain trees (6.07(4)). Weed Commissioner Steiner reports on this issue. He did some research and learned that the Weeping Willow produces problems for pipes and septic systems. The willow tree in question is not near any sewer system. The Ornamental Willow does not have the complex root structure like the Weeping Willow. He suggests the ordinance be modified to specifically restrict the Weeping Willow or take the Willow Tree language out entirely. Trustee Steiner spoke to a horticulturalist at Mileagers, Breezy Hill Nursery, and the Wisconsin Forestry Department in Madison.

Commissioner Cattoi states that he did some research but would like to do more. He states that if we are going to change an ordinance, we should do some more research. He suggests we table this issue. Commissioner Peterson suggests the entire section is reviewed and will assist Commissioner Cattoi with this.

President Mills distributed new municipal code books. The only thing that still needs to be amended is square foot language in the building code. President Mills states that the board has been reviewing Mount Pleasant's ordinances and they decided to review Chapter 6 regarding alcohol, cabaret, and gaming licensing rules. There is discussion. Trustee Jaeck made a motion to adopt Chapter 6 ordinances from the Village of Mt. Pleasant. Commissioner Cattoi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Peterson states that we are concerned with the unknowns when the Kohl's building is razed. Some issues include the exposed wall of the remaining structure, what kind of subsoil will be used, and making sure that the foundation has been completely removed. President Mills suggests that when the permits are issued, we will make guidelines that they are required to follow.

President Mills states we are still waiting for Time Warner Fiber Optics to go back to tower and install fiber optics. President Mills also asks each commission member to go by the Weiss household and look at the fence that was installed by a contractor. There is an issue with the height of the fence and the space under it.

Commissioner Jaeck moves to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Cattoi, all in favor and the meeting is adjourned at 7:05