



**MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
VIA ZOOM MEETINGS
6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order:

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees.

Attendance:

Present: Chairman Palmer, Vice-Chair Maier, Commissioners Eadie, Mealer, Ridley, Smith and Townsend. Council Liaison Alvarez, Director Jensen, Economic Development Manager Jacobs and Administrative Assistant Follett were also present.

Election of Officers:

Chairman Palmer nominated Vice Chair Maier as 2021 Planning Commission Chair. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Commissioner Palmer nominated Commissioner Smith as 2021 Planning Commission Vice-Chair. Chairwoman Maier nominated Commissioner Townsend as 2021 Planning Commission Vice-Chair. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and deferred to Commissioner Townsend. All were in favor of Commissioner Townsend as Vice-Chair.

Approval of Minutes:

Chair Maier presented the minutes of the January 27th meeting for approval.

VICE CHAIR TOWNSEND MOTIONED AND COMMISSIONER PALMER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27, 2021 MEETING AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION PASSED 7-0.

Approval of Agenda:

Chair Maier asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

COMMISSIONER PALMER MOVED AND COMMISSIONER MEALER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE February 24, 2021 MEETING AGENDA AS WRITTEN. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Public Comments:

Chairwoman Maier asked for the public comment procedure to be read by the recorder and then asked if any member of the public would like to speak. Having no public comments, Chair Maier closed the public comment period at 6:09 p.m.

Public Hearing Explanation

Chairwoman Maier opened the public hearing at 6:09 and asked Mrs. Follett if proper notice had been given. Mrs. Follett affirmed that proper public notice was given. Chairwoman Maier asked Mrs. Follett to read the public hearing explanation.

New Business:

1. Declaration of 840 Northgate Property as Surplus to City Needs

Chairwoman Maier introduced the item and asked for the staff report. Mr. Jensen deferred to Mr. Jacobs for the staff report. Mr. Jacobs provided a Power Point and overview of the property as well as the reason for the surplus request. As part of his presentation Mr. Jacobs noted the property has use restrictions limiting it to public use and that CBC may be interested in purchasing. At the conclusion of the presentation Chairwoman Maier opened the public hearing on this item at 6:13 p.m. and invited testimony from the public. Having no one come forward Chair Maier closed the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. and opened the item for commission discussion. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Jacobs answered questions from the Commission during their discussion.

COMMISSIONER PALMER MOVED AND COMMISSIONER EADIE SECONDED THE MOTION TO RECOMMEND THAT THE RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL DECLARE AS SURPLUS THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 840 NORTHGATE DRIVE. MOTION PASSED 7-0 ON A ROLL CALL VOTE.

Communications:

Councilman Alvarez congratulated newly elected Chairwoman Maier and Vice Chair Townsend.

Mr. Jensen commented on the continued strong building in Richland. He stated there have been a large number of new single-family dwelling permits.

Mr. Jacobs congratulated Chair Palmer and Vice Chair Townsend.

Vice Chair Townsend offered comments on the new Duportail bridge and other development in Richland.

Chair Maier thanked past Chair Palmer for his leadership and also recognized the city for its excellent job clearing streets during the latest snow event.

Adjournment:

Chairwoman Maier adjourned the meeting at 6:24 PM.

PREPARED BY: *Lynne Follett*
Lynne Follett, Administrative Assistant II

REVIEWED BY: *Mike Stevens*
Mike Stevens, Planning Manager

APPROVED BY: *Francesca Maier*
Francesca Maier, Chairwoman