

**CITY OF PLAINWELL
MINUTES
Planning Commission
October 17, 2018**

1. Call to Order at 7:02 p. m. by Lubic
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
3. Roll Call: Present: Jay Lawson, Rachel Colingsworth, Jim Higgs, Gary Sausaman, Lori Steele, Diana Lubic
Excused: Chris Haas
4. Approval of Minutes – 09/19/18
Higgs motioned to approve minutes, as received seconded by Lawson. Minutes approved on an all in favor voice vote.
5. Chairperson’s Report: - Diana Lubic reported out on the Michigan Planning Conference in Grand Rapids that she attended. She spoke about the Redevelopment session by Miller Canfield Attorney’s regarding development scams and how to avoid them. She was also honored at the Banquet for her 30 years of service to the Michigan Planning Committee.
6. New Business:
A. Zoning Variance request for 133 S. Sherwood St. Mr. Ron Norwood is requesting a variance to build to line in the R1-C District. This was brought to Planning Commission for comment only prior to presenting this to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Owners are requesting due to an irregular shape and size of their lot, which limits their options to add on to their garage.
Comments:
Sausaman suggested they provided a copy of the property survey for the ZBA.
Higgs & Colingsworth both commented that a letter from the neighbor would be good to have prior to moving forward to ZBA.
City Manager Wilson commented that we have been working with Norwood’s for over a year now and have suggested he try to purchase property from the neighbor or an easement. Also it was suggested to add on to the back of the house or make the addition smaller to fit within the ordinance.
Higgs commented that the ZBA consider granting the request, “who would it negatively impact?” He also mentioned that the ordinances can be too strict and every situation is different.
7. Old Business: None
8. Public Comments – None
9. Reports and Communications:
A. 09/10/18 and 09/24/18 Council Minutes

10. Staff Comments:

Siegel, Community Development Manager reported out on the events this weekend: Pumpkins in the Park and Arts and Eats Tour.

Economic Development report consisted of new businesses All State Insurance moving into 151 N. Main St. and The White Owl, 126 E. Bridge St. will be closing on Sat. Oct. 20.

Master Plan Project Updates:

Redevelopment Site, 135 N. Anderson is now completed - Ace Hardware

Dog Park – is completed

River walk has been painted

Sherwood Park Restroom Project is funded and designs ready waiting to go out to bid.

Mill Cleanup is on schedule

City Manager Wilson reported on the water testing. Plainwell has been tested for both PFAS and Dioxins with reports well below the danger levels to zero detect.

Water reports are posted on the city webpage.

12. Commissioner Comments:

Sausaman asked about the hanger project at the airport and inquired about the low cost to rent a hanger.

Higgs commented on the Redevelopment Liquor License the City is supporting for Rose LLC.

13. Adjournment:

Lubic adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Denise Siegel, Community Development Manager