

**PLANNING COMMISSION WORK SESSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Planning Commission conducted a work session meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Randy Bauer
 Commissioner Bruce Anderson
 Commissioner Cheri Gengler
 Commissioner Torrey Johnson
 Commissioner Eric Peters
 Commissioner Gary VanScoy
 Commissioner Matt Woestehoff

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Community Development Director Timothy Gladhill
 City Planner Chris Anderson
 City Planner Chloe McGuire Brigl
 Consulting Planner Eric Maass
 Economic Development Manager Shawn Sullivan

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bauer called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

4. APPROVE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

None.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01: Overview of Planning and Zoning Rules and Regulations

Community Development Director Gladhill presented the staff report stating each cycle of new Commissioner Appointments, Staff attempts to provide a refresher course on key topics of interest to planning and zoning. He provided the Commission with a presentation on the basics of planning and zoning. Staff discussed the process that was followed for public hearings and variance requests.

Chairperson Bauer commented on Roberts Rules of Order and discussed the parliamentary procedure that would be followed for meetings.

Commissioner Woestehoff thanked Chairperson Bauer for running the meetings in an organized and orderly manner. He stated he appreciated the fact that comments of dissent were welcomed.

Chairperson Bauer thanked staff for the thorough presentation.

5.02: Review City Council Strategies Plan DRAFT

Community Development Director Gladhill presented the staff report stating each year, the City Council updates its Strategic Plan that guides policies and procedures for the next 1 to 3 years. This guides and directs the work of Boards, Commissions and Staff. Once approved, Staff will begin a process to update the Planning Commission Work Plan, EDA Work Plan, and Community Development Work Plan (Staff). The City Council is scheduled to hold a final Work Session on Wednesday, April 3. The Strategic Plan would be formally adopted at a later date. The Planning Commission should expect to begin work on an updated Planning Commission Work Plan in May.

Chairperson Bauer requested further information on why a larger number of housing projects were being considered within The COR than was previously anticipated.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan discussed the importance of having enough people and households within the community, along with a specific number of traffic counts in order to support future retail and restaurants. He commented on the importance of the City being stable and consistent in order to draw retailers to the community.

5.03: Discuss Planning Commission Priorities for 2019 and Processing for Updating Planning Commission Work Plan

Community Development Director Gladhill presented the staff report stating based on a review of the City Council's DRAFT Strategic Plan, Staff would like to discuss what policy topics the Planning Commission would like to prioritize for the next 12 months. As a baseline for available resources, Staff would recommend limiting the number of policy projects to two per Staff Member (total of 6 policy projects for the year). As a frame of reference, the current Planning Commission Work Plan was provided to the Commission, and it was noted it was in need of significant update. Staff requested the Commission brainstorm five or six items that should be included in the 2019 Work Plan.

Chairperson Bauer recommended the plan and vision for The COR be addressed along with the Highway 10 corridor.

Community Development Director Gladhill discussed how the retail market was changing and how this would impact the vision for The COR and Highway 10 corridor. He described the MnDOT reconstruction that would be made to the Highway 10 corridor from Anoka to Ramsey.

Commissioner Anderson suggested the Planning Commission hold more joint meetings with the City Council and EDA in order to get all Commissioners working together and on the same page.

Commissioner Johnson asked if the City had a healthy industrial and manufacturing environment.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan reported this was the case. He noted between the cities of Anoka and Ramsey the community had a healthy manufacturing base. He commented further on how existing businesses in Ramsey were expanding which assisted in growing the City's number of jobs.

Chairperson Bauer stated the City's business expo would be held on Saturday, April 6th at the Bunker Lake Industrial Complex or Adrenaline Sports from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Gengler indicated she would like to see an improved communications plan for development projects.

5.04: Review Planning Commission Training Opportunities

Community Development Director Gladhill provided an overview of training opportunities including, but not limited to the American Planning Association, the League of Minnesota Cities and GTS Training.

6. COMMISSION / STAFF INPUT

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The worksession meeting of the Planning Commission adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Gladhill
Community Development Director

ATTEST:

JoAnn Shaw
Community Development Assistant

Drafted by Heidi Guenther
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.