



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 4, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jon Friedman called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 PM in the Council Chambers at 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Jon Friedman, Vice Chair Richard Weinman, Commissioners Bryan Cairns, Tiffin Goodman, Craig Olson were present. City staff was represented by Scott Greenberg, Development Services Director, Christina Shuck, Assistant City Attorney and Will Piro, Planner.

Absences:

Commissioners Jennifer Mechem and Suzanne Skone arrived shortly after the approval of the minutes at 7:05.

Appearances:

There were no appearances from the public.

Minutes:

Commissioner Goodman moved to approve the minutes from September 2, 2015. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved (5-0).

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #1: ZTR15-005 Zoning Code Text Amendment related to parks impact fees

An Open Record Public Hearing was held on a proposed Zoning Code Amendment modifying Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19 to adopt park impact fees.

Scott Greenberg, Development Services Director, provided opening comments concerning meeting proceedings, including a brief discussion regarding City Council's research and direction on sending forward the impact fee agenda items to Planning Commission.

Vice Chair Weinman asked questions regarding the process concerning the different levels of service around parks.

Jason Hennessy, Associate with BERK consulting provided a presentation regarding rate study for parks impact fees and answered questions from the Planning Commission. Scott Greenberg, Development Services also answered questions from the Planning Commission. Lisa Grueter with BERK consulting also offered comments on the park rate study.

Chair Freidman opened the Open Record Public Hearing at 7:55 pm.

No Testimony from the public was taken.

The open record public hearing was closed at 7:55pm

The Planning Commission deliberated on the proposed amendment.

Bruce Fletcher, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided comment concerning use of parks by employees located on Mercer Island.

Vice Chair Weinman moved to recommend that the City Council approve the request for an amendment to Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19, as detailed in Exhibit 1 (Ordinance No. 15C-___), provided that the proposal shall be modified as follows:

1. The impact fee shall only apply to residential development.
2. The exemption shall not apply to transitional housing
3. Staff will make technical modifications to language.

Commissioner Cairns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 7-0.

MEETING RECESSED AT 8:20PM

MEETING RESUMED AT 8:25PM

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #2: ZTR15-004 Zoning Code Text Amendment related to transportation impact fees

An Open Record Public Hearing was held on a proposed Zoning Code Amendment modifying Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19 to adopt transportation impact fees.

Sarah Keenan with the consulting firm Fehr & Peers provided a presentation and overview on the proposed code text amendment. Scott Greenberg, Development Services Director answered policy and process questions from the Planning Commission. Don Samdahl with Fehr & Peers answered questions from the Planning Commission regarding the transportation impact fee rate study.

Chair Freidman opened the Open Record Public Hearing at 9:04 pm.

No testimony from the public was taken.

The open record public hearing was closed at 9:04

The Planning Commission deliberated on the proposed amendment.

Commissioner Cairns excused himself for the evening prior to the formal motion.

Commissioner Olson moved to recommend that the City Council approve the request for an amendment to Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19, as detailed in Exhibit 1, provided that the staff will:

1. Harmonize the population growth numbers between the parks, transportation and school impact fees programs.

Vice-Chair Weinman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

STAFF COMMENTS:

None.

PLANNED ABSENCES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Vice-Chair Weinman will be absent on November 21, 2015. Chair Jon Freidman will be late to the special Joint Commission meeting on November 21, 2015.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

City Council approved school impact fees unanimously.

NEXT MEETING:

The next special Joint Commission meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2015 8:00am.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Friedman adjourned the meeting at 9:16 PM.