

MARSHVILLE PLANNING BOARD

October 10, 2018 Minutes

Board Members Present: Chairwoman Susan Drake, Vice Chairman Fred Burton, Frances Griffin, Sue Helms, and Rusty Johnson.

Others present: Blair Israel (Planning Advisor) and Amy Griffin (Planning Board Secretary).

Absent: Vice Chairman Mark Traywick and Brian Weber.

Chairwoman Susan Drake called the meeting to order. Mr. Johnson provided the invocation and everyone recited the Pledge.

Mr. Burton made a motion to approve the September 2018 minutes, Ms. Helms seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

US 74 Corridor Study Presentation

Sean Flaherty with Gresham Smith and Partners was here to present information on this study. The purpose of the US 74 Corridor Study was to consider the benefits and impacts of making operation improvements to existing US 74 corridor as it is today to accommodate future traffic compared against constructing the Bypass. Whether or not the Bypass is built was not the focus of the study, but to understand what improvements can we have right now. The funding for the project came from the Charlotte Regional Transportation Organization and Union County. Open Houses were held on April 19th and August 23rd in addition to online survey to give people as many opportunities for feedback. Mr. Flaherty discussed issues, opportunities, and challenges from the study. Also the study looked at an existing versus a bypass scenario for US 74. Next recommendations were given from information gathered through the study and survey. Mr. Flaherty did not know the recommendation process so he was unsure if the Planning Board needed to approve it for it to go to Town Council. Chairwoman Drake stated she believed it was optional but there was so much information to absorb she did not know if the Board was comfortable making a decision at the point. Mr. Israel asked if all that was being asked today was the acceptance of the plans and its findings to which Mr. Flaherty replied they were tasked to make some improvements as it is today whether or not the Bypass is funded or not. Since the Planning Board was unaware that a recommendation would need to be given today, they were not prepared. Mr. Flaherty concluded the presentation with no decision made.

Monroe Expressway Tolling 101 Summary

Planning Advisor Blair Israel gave a handout concerning the Monroe Expressway. Warren Cooksey with the Turnpike Authority had met the Council and Mr. Israel wanted to give the Planning Board the same information. The Expressway is supposed to be open late Autumn, definitely by the end of the year but no real date had been given. The Expressway is supposed to save 15 minutes of travel time and users will avoid 25 traffic signals. The Expressway goes from Marshville to Stallings and there are six internal interchanges. There are toll gantries where you drive thru and it makes a note of the car and license plate. You can be billed two different ways - either using the NC Quick Pass with a 35% savings or by mail. The 2018 Quick Pass Rate is charged by the axle. For a 2 axle vehicle for a complete trip would be \$2.54. Mr. Blair then went over unpaid balances, the Quick Pass Customer Service information, and finally Warren Cooksey's information.

Event Centers proposed definition and associated MDO language

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Planning Administrator Israel distributed another handout regarding Event Centers. MDO Article 3 will define an Event Center as a facility or portion thereof which is rented, leased or otherwise made available to any person or group for private events or functions that is not open to the general public. Next is showed how it would appear in the Table of Uses and conditional uses in the MDO. Mr. Israel wanted to present it one more time to see if there were any concerns, additions, subtracts, or revisions. Trying to update the ordinance because there is a number of things that have been approved and the language just needs to be added. Rusty Johnson made a recommendation to amend the MDO pertaining to Special Events, Fred Burton seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Chairwoman Drake discussed the Corridor Study again. She was not aware they wanted a recommendation from the Planning Board for the plan for the Council. Mr. Burton made a comment about asking Union County Schools to do a study concerning traffic at East Union Middle and Chairwoman Drake responded that Council has been working on that for a while because they have had to hire an additional police officer to handle the traffic. Chairwoman Drake suggested if they find out it is needed for them to make a recommendation for the Study, they will do it at next month's meeting.

New Planning Board member (ETJ)

Chairwoman Drake said that two people had turned in letters expressing interest in the position. Mr. Tom Appenzeller and Mrs. Tracy Stancil. Mr. Appenzeller has been on it in the past. She said they could send both names to Town Council or could suggest one. Mr. Johnson said he thought the Planning Board should let Town Council decide. Mr. Blair said he thought making a recommendation over one applicant vs another was no different than the other recommendations they send to the Council. Ms. Helms did not know enough about either of them to choose. Chairwoman Drake said it was unusual to have two people express interest in the same opening. Mr. Johnson said as a Board Member he is not comfortable making a choice but as a citizen he will contact Council Members and express his choice. Chairwoman Drake asked Mrs. Griffin to forward the letters from both applicants to Board Members and to contact them about coming to the next meeting. Mr. Burton made the motion to table matter till November, Ms. Helms seconded, and it was voted unanimously. Mr. Johnson asked if we could invite Council to hear the discussions. Chairwoman Drake you can't have the entire Council but a few could be invited as liaisons.

Public Comments / Other Business

There were no public comments.

Mr. Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Burton seconded, and it was approved unanimously.