

## Planning Commission Meeting

### Minutes



July 26, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers – City Hall

3rd Floor - 207 Lafayette Street

Winona, MN 55987

**Members Present:** Commissioner Brian Buelow, Commissioner LaVerne Olson, Commissioner Ed Hahn, Commissioner Daniel Hall, Commissioner Amy Jo Marks, Commissioner Dale Boettcher, Commissioner Todd Paddock, Commissioner Peter Shortridge, and Paul Schollmeier

**Staff Present:** City Planner Carlos Espinosa

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#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Chairman Buelow.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes - June 14, 2021

The minutes from the Planning Commission meetings of June 14, 2021 were reviewed.

Moved by Commissioner Olson

Seconded by Commissioner Boettcher

Motion Carried

#### 3. Public Hearing - Burros Land Disturbance Activity Permit Application

Chairman Buelow asked City Planner Espinosa to give a summary of the application. Mr. Espinosa presented the agenda item and stated that the applicant appears to have satisfied the required conditions for the Land Disturbance Activity Permit.

Next, Chairman Buelow asked the applicant to detail the proposal. Mr. Burros stated that he will be hiring Alex Langen Logging Service to remove approximately 40 trees from his property. The trees would be sold for lumber.

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Commissioner Schollmeier asked how many trees would be removed to get to the trees to be harvested. Mr. Burros responded that no new logging roads would be cut and the subsoil would not be disturbed.

Commissioner Shortridge asked if there would be invasives removal as part of the project. Mr. Burros stated there would not.

Commissioner Paddock asked if thought was given to completing the logging in the winter. Mr. Burros stated that it would be more important to do the work in the winter if they were cutting logging trails or roads – but that is not the case for this project.

Commissioner Paddock asked if the applicant could describe how the operation will be “low-impact”. Alex Langen of Alex Langen Logging stated that they will use a smaller than normal bulldozer and they will not be taking out smaller trees to get to the lumber trees. Mr. Langen also stated that many of the tree to be removed are rotting from the top and will topple by themselves within 5 years if not removed. Mr. Langen also noted that his co-worker is state certified in forestry and he is currently completing the required coursework. Together they complete 5-7 tree removal projects for the state per year. As a result, they are familiar with and employ best practices for selective tree harvesting.

There being no other questions from Commissioners, Chair Buelow opened the public hearing.

There being no one who desired to speak, Chair Buelow closed the public hearing.

Motion to Approve, Moved by Commissioner Hall  
Seconded by Commissioner Boettcher

Motion Carried Unanimously

#### 4. Other Business

City Planner Espinosa noted that the contract for the recommended Comprehensive Plan Consultant, Hoisington Koegler Group Inc. is currently being reviewed. Following Council approval of the contract, the Comprehensive Plan Project would commence.

Commissioner Paddock noted that this would be his last day on the Commission as he is moving out of state. Mr. Paddock thanked the Commissioners for their thoughtful approach to the different topics to come before the Commission, even those where he was in the minority in terms of the vote.

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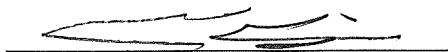
5. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Moved by Commissioner Hahn

Seconded by Commissioner Boettcher

Motion Carried Unanimously



Carlos Espinosa, City Planner