

City of Buckley
Planning Commission Minutes
September 28, 2009

Chairperson Snellback called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The following members were present: Dorn, Howard, and McCorkle. Logan and Panasiuk were absent. Also in attendance was Mayor Pat Johnson.

McCorkle moved to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2009 commission meeting. Howard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Snellback asked if we ever received the fire impact fees. Mayor Johnson stated no we have not; there have been some issues with legality. We are not sure if we will have them for this year's update. If they are ready for this year, the Planning Commission will have to hold another public hearing. Otherwise they will have to wait for next year.

Snellback opened the public hearing on the 2009 Comprehensive Plan Updates at 7:05 PM.

There were no comments.

The public hearing was closed at 7:06 PM.

Snellback asked if anyone had anything they wanted to discuss on the other updates.

Mayor Johnson asked if anyone had any recommendations or changes to the parks plan as it was presented. Howard stated Suraiya stated she found some inconsistencies throughout the plan and she was going to fix those. He was curious if we have an updated plan to look at. Snellback stated the part of the plan that concerned her were 4.4.5 and 4.4.6 on page 16. She did present some information to Suraiya regarding this which is not intersecting wildlife corridors with people corridors.

Snellback asked who will be our contact person now and how do we get a hold of him. Mayor Johnson stated the contact person will be Dave Schmidt and you can contact him via e-mail or call city hall and they will put you through to him. Mayor Johnson stated if you cannot get a hold of him, you can call her at city hall, home or on her cell.

Snellback asked who would be preparing the agenda. Mayor Johnson stated Dave will

be preparing them you will need to get him the information the Thursday before the meeting. McCorkle stated he will get in touch with Dave to discuss and confirm for Monday and see if there is anything he wants. Howard stated he would like to sit down with Dave to see where we go from here and take inventory to find out what we do next and what the priorities are.

The commission was okay with the Land Use Element (FLUM) other than getting a larger map. They also were in agreement with the Transportation Element.

Dorn stated we never reached a consensus on the capital facilities element because of the park impact fee. He doesn't feel now is the time to increase these fees. Discussion ensued. Howard stated one of the questions he had is how do our fees compare to other cities of our size. Mayor Johnson stated for a long time we have been in the middle of the pack. There are some fees where we might be higher but others where we might be lower. Everyone is a little different based on what their needs are and what is in the Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Johnson stated the Growth Management Act mandates that growth pays for itself. Howard asked if the Council makes substantial changes to the park plan will the impact fee change as well. Dorn stated it was his understanding that the capital facilities element would be passed on with the note that the commission could not come to an agreement on the impact fees. There was a brief discussion about the school impact fees and how they are collected.

McCorkle asked if there is anything specific that anyone would like him to express. Dorn stated he is really concerned what is going to happen with the planning commission because we floundered for about a year with no leadership. He needs to be aware that even with good people on the commission if we don't have the leadership, we are dead in the water. Howard stated it seems to him with his short time attending council meetings and being on the Planning Commission, that there is somewhat of a disconnect between the discussion here and then the discussion that occurs at the Council meeting. The thought he had is how valuable it might be if there was a representative or two from the Planning Commission that attended council meetings at least on nights where there are things we are recommending are being discussed. Mayor Johnson stated that would be a great idea and we can even put a spot on the agenda for you. It was decided to have the commission go to the second council meeting of the month on the fourth Tuesday. Dorn asked how much stuff we have to do. Mayor Johnson stated Suraiya will be coming in after her medical leave on the 6th to go through things with us. Dorn stated she is going to be pretty tough to replace, she stood her ground and is pretty sharp. Mayor Johnson stated it was not an easy decision to make. Howard asked if the decision is final. Mayor Johnson stated at least until the end of the year. Snellback asked if there is any possibility that the position will be

funded next year and if she is available would that be something the city would consider. Mayor Johnson stated it is something the city would consider but she doesn't look for it to have a lot of extra money for. She believes it is the first of several cuts. The bottom line is with the figures we are getting from the State she has told all department heads to cut an additional 10% from their budgets and hope that we will be okay for next. Basically we are going to bring in less money next year than we did this year. Dorn asked if there was anyway for example we could combine us, Wilkeson and South Prairie and then get a grant from the state for Suraiya to go to school and work as an internship. Discussion ensued. Howard stated what he is hearing is that Administrator Schmidt is going to fill the void as best he can and that the Mayor will help him on the nights he can't and that we will still have agendas and we are going to have paperwork made available to us. Mayor Johnson stated you are still going to have a job to do you just may have a little bit more of it. Mayor Johnson stated she strongly encouraged all the new Planning Commission members to take the short course on planning the next time it becomes available. Mayor Johnson stated all questions and concerns need to go through Administrator Schmidt and another good resource is Municipal Research. Mayor Johnson stated we will make it work and give the commission all the resources they need.

The next meeting will be October 5, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Howard moved to adjourn the meeting. Dorn seconded the motion and the motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM.

Kathleen Snellback, Chairperson