

HARLAN PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION – September 14, 2023

* de-notes participating electronically via Zoom meeting.

The Harlan Planning & Zoning Commission met on Thursday, September 14th, 2023, at 12:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers and electronically via Zoom.

Present: Russ Blenkinsop, Mary Johnson, Phil Perkins, Brent Scheve, Lori Stitz,

Absent: Debbie Davis, Sheri Tyrrel

Present via Zoom: Danielle Briggs

Also Present: Recording Secretary Jennifer Malone, Planning & Zoning Administrator Gene Gettys, Joe Rueschenberg, Mayor Jay Christensen, Richard Petersen, Roger Bissen

The meeting was called to order by Phil Perkins. It was moved by Brent Scheve and seconded by Mary Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Brent Scheve and seconded by Lori Stitz to elect Phil Perkins as Chairperson and Russ Blenkinsop as Vice Chairperson through June 30, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Phil Perkins presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Conflicts of interest are to be stated if and when applicable. None stated.

It was moved by Brent Scheve and seconded by Lori Stitz to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2021, meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Phil Perkins noted that this was the time to discuss the City of Harlan Comprehensive Plan.

The item for public hearing was to consider approval of the final draft of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan prepared by SWIPCO.

Gene Gettys and Danielle Briggs explained that a committee of various citizens had met several times while the plan was being compiled; a city-wide survey was sent out; and a workshop was held for the public to provide input before SWIPCO prepared the final draft.

The Commission discussed multiple areas of progress that they felt should be included in the Comprehensive Plan. Four items were agreed upon by the group that should be added to the Comprehensive Plan presented to the Council. These items are as follows: 1) Myrtue Medical Center Emergency Room expansion to be finished August 2024; 2) Iowa Western Community College's relationship with the Harlan schools and college preparedness; 3) Fire Department updates; and 4) Building Inspection Program in Harlan.

It was moved by Brent Scheve and seconded by Mary Johnson to approve the 2023 Comprehensive Plan with the four additions mentioned above. Motion carried unanimously.

Whereupon the motion carried, and the 2023 Comprehensive Plan will be forwarded to the City Council for final adoption.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Jennifer M. Malone

Jennifer M. Malone, Recording Secretary

These minutes are subject to Board approval at the next regular meeting.