

City of Mount Vernon
Planning Commission Meeting
Minutes from November 1, 2016

Chairperson Tom Waller called the meeting to order. Present were Planning Commission members Chris Bollinger, Linda Piazza, Adair Orr, Shelley Acero, and Al Lyon. Staff members Rebecca Lowell, Bob Hyde and Blaine Chesterfield were also present. Planning Commission member Fred Clark was absent.

Minutes:

Mr. Orr moved, second by Mrs. Acero, to approve the minutes from August 16, 2016, with correction. Motion carried. Mrs. Acero moved, second by Mr. Orr, to approve the minutes from October 4, 2016. Motion carried. Minutes from August 2 and September 6, 2016 were tabled as the Planning Commission member needed to take action was absent.

Public Hearing on MVMC Chapters 13.33 Storm Water Drainage Utility, 13.35 Surface Water Utility and 15.40 Critical Areas:

Mrs. Lowell presented an overview of the amendments within the City's municipal code proposed to be revised. She explained these changes are required through Federal and State government programs specifically Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Water Pollution Control Act and the Growth Management Act. Adoption of Washington State Department of Ecology 2012 Stormwater Management Manual is due at years end. This includes the training and implementation Low Impact Development (LID) resulting in the adoption of new stormwater and development related codes. What was once encouraged will now be required.

Discussion ensued on the effectiveness of certain low impact methods. Mr. Chesterfield explained not all methods are applicable to every area. Discussion on whether this will impact existing development followed. Staff explained the changes become effective January 1, 2017.

Mr. Waller opened the hearing for public comment. As there were no attendees the hearing was closed.

Mrs. Acero moved, second by Mrs. Piazza, to recommend to City Council approval of the adoption of the Department of Ecology 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and related code amendments. Motion carried.

Mrs. Lowell reported City Council recently passed an ordinance enacting interim regulations on adult entertainment businesses while staff works on amending the existing municipal code. Planning Commission will be reviewing revisions and holding public hearings on this code amendment.

Mr. Hyde stated a position within the Planning Commission becomes available January 2017. Mr. Clark's term ends December of this year. He, and any other interested residents of Mount Vernon may apply. Mr. Hyde also mentioned that members consider new officers, Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, for the Planning Commission.

There being no further business, Mr. Lyon moved, second by Mrs. Piazza, to adjourn. Motion carried.