GEORGETOWN-SCOTT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES January 8, 2015

The regular meeting was held in the Scott County Courthouse on January 8, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Rob Jones at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Jeff Caldwell, Janet Holland, Regina Mizell, Byron Moran, John Shirley, and Steve Smith, Director Joe Kane, Planners Megan Chan and Matt Summers, and Attorney Charlie Perkins. Absent were Commissioner Frank Wiseman and Engineer Brent Combs.

Motion by Shirley, second by Caldwell, to approve the December invoices. Motion carried.

With the correction of the motion being made by Jones, and the second by Smith for the Love's Truck Stop request, motion by Caldwell, second by Holland, to approve the December 11, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Shirley, second by Mizell, to approve the January agenda. Motion carried.

Postponements/Withdrawals

The Everybody's Auto Sales North, Winding Oaks Cluster Subdivision, and Hill-n-Dale Zone Change applications were postponed by the applicants to the February meeting. Motion by Smith, second by Shirley, to accept the postponements. Motion carried.

FY 13-14 Audit

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Mr. Kane stated that Greg Miklavcic of Charles T. Mitchell Company attended the workshop to review the audit and answer any questions. The audit showed no irregularities. Commissioner Shirley commended Mr. Miklavcic for his work and presentation.

Motion by Mizell, second by Smith, to accept the FY 14-15 audit. Motion carried.

Discussion on email

Vice Chairman Jones asked Mr. Perkins if it is advisable for Commissioners to receive emails from staff to their personal email accounts. Mr. Perkins stated that

the content of any emails would likely be preliminary in nature, not any kind of final action, and as such would be exempt from an open records request. A legitimate request would have to be very specific, literally geared to that email or series of emails, and he felt that would be extremely unlikely. He will consider the matter further.

H.B. 55 presentation

Mr. Summers discussed the topic of Complete Streets. He stated that complete streets are for everyone, regardless of what mode of transportation is used. He presented illustrations showing bike lanes, marked crosswalks, a bus lane, and adequate space for motor vehicles. He discussed how complete streets can benefit older, younger, and disabled users.

He cited statistics regarding safety, health, and economic benefits that support the need for complete streets. He addressed the trend of workers wishing to commute less and work in pedestrian/bike-friendly environments.

Commissioner Shirley felt that the narrow sidewalks in downtown Georgetown limit the ability to add seating and other features that will improve the downtown environment. Mr. Summers stated that changing the angle parking to parallel parking has been studied, which would make room for a bike lane. Mr. Kane noted that a study of the alleys has begun that will look at "activating" them for beautification, wayfinding to existing public parking, and increased public use. Commissioner Shirley expressed support for that idea.

Commissioner Moran asked how funding can be obtained for streetscape improvements. Mr. Summers stated that it starts with a strategic plan, which is being worked on currently by the Bike/Ped Plan committee. It will recommend policies to the legislative bodies regarding sidewalk location, etc. Also, the Transportation Cabinet must at least consider implementing those recommendations when doing road improvements. On locally-maintained roads, sidewalk repair and the addition of sidewalks can be done as soon as identified.

Discussion continued on various problem areas of Georgetown and how to improve them. Commissioner Smith stated that a fulltime grant writer would be helpful.

<u>Update of previously approved projects and agenda items</u>

It was noted that the next workshop is on the 9th of February at 4:30, and the next Bike/Ped committee meeting is Thursday, January 15.

Commissioner Smith asked about the changes to the Landscape Ordinance. Mr. Kane stated that they will be presented at the next meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully,

Rob Jones, Vice-Chairman

Attest:

Charlie Perkins, Secretary