

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
AUGUST 28, 2014 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were, Thom Walker, Dick Dobson, Jules Zimmer, and Victoria Hallin. Staff present, Administrator Mark Karnowski, Finance Director Steve Jackson, Police Chief Brian Payne, Police Investigator Todd Frederick, Community Development Director Carie Fuhrman, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Engineer Mike Nielson, and Attorneys Dick Schieffer and Damien Toven.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

None

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2014

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2014. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Permits and Licenses**
- B. **Personnel**
 - 1. Liquor- approval to hire Amy Wells effective 8-26-14
- C. **Donations / Designations**

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OPEN FORUM

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

- A. EDA Board Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2014
- B. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2014
- C. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of August 18, 2014

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Sherburne County Snowmobile Trail Permit

Karnowski reported that there is a small section of property that Sherburne County needs a permit for their snowmobile trail.

Josh Schneider with Sherburne County stated that the DNR chooses a few clubs each year to review and make sure proper permits are in place. They were chosen this year, so they need the City to approve the permit for a small section of land near Rum River Drive South and Highway 169. Mystic Riders was required to do the same several years ago when their club was chosen.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR SHERBURNE COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAIL PERMIT. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Walker asked if this is basically a permit renewal. Schneider responded that was correct and this trail has been used for many years. This section is basically to allow the snowmobiles to get to the gas station.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance 709 – Sign Amendments – FINAL READING

Fuhrman reported that additional “clean-up” of the Sign Ordinance is needed.

The Ordinance proposes the following:

1. Multi-Tenant Building Wall Signs:
 - Allows each tenant up to 3 wall signs.
 - Requires a comprehensive sign plan only for NEW multi-tenant buildings.
2. Wall, projecting, under-canopy, and fascia/soffit Signs:
 - No substantial changes; only formatting changes.
3. Billboards, Pylon, Monument, Multi-Tenant, and Video Display Signs:
 - Clarifies that replacement of existing billboards, pylon, monument, multi-tenant pylon, and video display signs only requires staff review.
4. Monument Signs:
 - Clarifies that only one sign is allowed per property and is required to be on the property of the organization being advertised.
 - Updates the allowed sign areas and heights in the various districts for more consistency.
 - Adds sign requirements for the MOR District.
5. Existing Signs:
 - Removes language entirely.
 - Note: Section 10 of the existing Sign Ordinance spells out the provisions for requiring the removal of signs that are erected or maintained in violation of the Ordinance.
6. Non-Conforming Signs:
 - Updates the language to match the State Statute language in regards to non-conformities.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing in July and is recommending approval of this Ordinance. Staff is requesting that the City Council make a motion to adopt Ordinance #709.

HALLIN MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 709 AMENDING THE SIGN ORDINANCE. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Ordinance 710 – Tobacco Ordinance Amendment – FINAL READING

Karnowski reported that Attorney Schieffer is recommending the Tobacco Ordinance Amendment which adds the new electronic cigarettes.

DOBSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 710 AMENDING THE TOBACCO ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Ordinance 711 - Fence ordinance – FIRST READING

Fuhrman reported that staff and the Planning Commission have been working on changes to the fence regulations to help refine the process and make things easier to understand for property owners, which includes cleaning up some of the Ordinance language, updating existing forms, as well as creating new handouts.

This Ordinance Amendment, for the most part, proposes several housekeeping changes to the fence regulations and cleans up some of the existing language to make it clearer. A few specifics to point out:

- 1) For boundary line fences adjoining another property, it clarifies that a fence may be located on a property line if one of three conditions exist:
 - (1) property owner has a current Certificate of Survey; OR
 - (2) property identification irons have been located; OR
 - (3) the neighboring property owner agrees in writing.

If any of the above conditions cannot be met, the boundary line fence must be at least two feet from the reasonably-identified property line.

- 2) It clarifies that a fence within the triangular visibility area on a corner lot cannot exceed 3 feet in height.
- 3) It allows more than just a chain link fence to be utilized in the front yard of a Commercial or Industrial lot, as long as at least 75% of the fence is open for passage of air and light and provides for traffic visibility. It allows the fence to be up to 8 (eight) feet in height, consistent with other Commercial and Industrial fences.
- 4) It removes the Interior Yard Fence subsection as the three provisions are either already stated or already allowed via a previous subsection.

The Planning Commission held the required public hearing at their August meeting and recommends approval of Ordinance 711. Staff is requesting that the City Council make a motion to introduce the first reading of Ordinance 711.

Hallin had a question about a difference in 6.9C and 6.9D. Fuhrman said it was amended to make it the same as the side and rear provisions.

Walker asked if a natural fence like a shrub row would fall under this Ordinance. Fuhrman replied that something like that would not be considered a fence, but would fall under screening. Walker questioned if they would also be required to meet the clear view area.

Fuhrman responded that there was a section in the fence ordinance that spoke about shrubs and the clear view area. That will need to be moved to another area of the code, such as performance standards.

HALLIN MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 711 AMENDING THE FENCE ORDINANCE. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MISCELLANEOUS

BILL LIST

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$115,567.42 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 70514 TO 70585 FOR A TOTAL OF \$236,667.63. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business:

HALLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:12 PM. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawna Jenkins
City Clerk
ATTEST:

Paul Whitcomb, Mayor