

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 18, 2018

3:00 p.m.

5TH Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

COUNCILOR STEVEN W. HOYT, COMMITTEE CHAIR
COUNCILOR ABBOTT & COUNCILOR O'QUINN, COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councilor(s) Present: Hoyt, Abbott, O'Quinn

I. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Hoyt called the meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 7, 2017

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn: Moved to Approve.

Councilor Hoyt: Seconded.

III. AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE - CHARACTER CODE:

Character Code will be another tool in our zoning ordinance that will be applied in key core areas of the city where the comprehensive plan and future land use plan recommends densely developed mixed use walkable districts. To that end, the character code is designed to create human-scale walkable districts that are vibrant, interesting places to be. To do this, the character code requires that buildings be placed close to the sidewalk, street trees and street lights are installed, parking is located to the rear of buildings, and buildings, at the street's edge, shall have a certain percentage of windows and doors. These requirements and many more are intended to create a walkable place that is interesting and inviting to a person. It has been proven in many cities that these types of places are more desirable, use less resources, produce higher tax value, rent at higher rates, and over time can support transit. The character code was recommended for approval by Birmingham Planning Commission on December 6, 2018.

Action Taken:

Tim Gambrel discussed the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

After discussion, the Committee voted to forward the item to Council for a vote and approval.

Councilor O'Quinn: Moved to Approve.

Councilor Abbott: Seconded.

Item Recommended to Council.

IV. COMPLETE STREETS ORDINANCE:

Complete Streets Ordinance-will be an effective tool in gaging the need and viability for including multi-modes of transportation for streets in the city. The ordinance will require that all street improvements will be evaluated to determine if other modes of transportation, aside from automobiles, should be included when street improvements are being considered. The goal is to create a network of streets that are designed to safely accommodate automobiles, transit, pedestrians and bicyclists so that transportation options are provided which will produce many benefits from health to economic.

MINUTES

The complete streets ordinance was recommended for approval by the Birmingham Planning Commission on January 10, 2018.

Action Taken:

Tim Gambrel discussed the Complete Streets Ordinance.

After discussion, the Committee voted to forward the item to Council for a vote and approval.

Councilor O'Quinn: _____ Moved to Approve.

Councilor Abbott: _____ Seconded.

Item Recommended to Council.

V. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS
None

VI. ADJOURN
Councilor Abbott: _____ Moved to Adjourn.
Councilor Hoyt: _____ Seconded.