

INDIANOLA PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 11, 2016  
6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Doug Opie and on roll call the following members were present:

Joe Butler  
Tiffany Coleman  
Al Farris  
Ron Fridley  
Cindy Johnson  
Doug Opie  
Bob Ormsby  
Josh Rabe  
Misty Soldwisch

Also present: Jon Roen, Bob Bash, Stacey Crow, Ryan Crow, Mindi Robinson and Chuck Burgin.

The minutes of the September 13, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion made by Coleman and seconded by Butler. Question was called for and on voice vote Chairperson Opie declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Consider request from Bob Bash and Michael Patterson to purchase the South ½ half of the North/South alley lying between Lot 3 and Lot 4, Block 5, Berry's Addition, Indianola, Iowa.**

Chuck reviewed the request with the Commission stating the notification to adjacent property owners and department supervisors had been issued and there were no objections.

Motion was made by Farris and seconded by Rabe to approve the request from Bob Bash and Michael Patterson to purchase the South ½ half of the North/South alley lying between Lot 3 and Lot 4, Block 5, Berry's Addition, Indianola, Iowa, with the City retaining easement rights. Question was called for and on voice vote Chairperson Opie declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Consider request from Jon Roen to amend M-2 (General Industrial) zoning to allow outdoor storage facilities for boats, campers and other types of vehicles.**

Chuck reviewed the request with the Commission stating storage facilities are not specifically listed as a permitted use within M-1 and M-2 zoning but have been allowed under the general definition of warehousing. Because this request does not have a building associated with the outdoor storage facility, Chuck recommends amending the M-1 and M-2 zoning because of the following reasons:

- Required off-street parking is determined by the square footage of building be utilized.
- The site plan ordinance, regulating hard surfaces, natural green areas, water detention and buffer requirements, is not effective until a building permit is requested.
- Building permits are not required for fencing, grading or graveling areas.
- Renting parking spaces for profit should be considered a separate principal permitted use and should be listed within a zoning classification.

Because of these reasons, Chuck recommended the following amendments:

1. List outdoor storage facilities for recreational vehicles, boats, trailers and similar motorized vehicles as a permitted use in M-1 and M-2 zoning classifications.
2. Require a minimum of five off-street parking stalls if there is a building in excess of 150 sq. ft. located on the same site.
3. Amend the Site Plan Ordinance to address the issue of uses that may not require building uses or improvements.
4. Because self storage units have been added as a permitted use within C-2 zoning, this use should be added as a permitted use within M-1 and M-2 zoning classification.

Commission discussed setback requirements and parking, existing zoning classifications adjacent to M-1 and M-2 zoning and hard surface versus gravel parking.

Farris shared his concerns regarding existing M-1 and M-2 zoning areas in town that may be inappropriate for this type of use in the future, such as the highway corridors and East Euclid Avenue.

Commission discussed the potential to place a special use permit condition on the ordinance to allow Board of Adjustment to regulate site specific areas.

Jon Roen spoke on behalf of his request stating he has viewed numerous residences that have their large recreational vehicles parked in neighborhoods. This option would allow for the betterment of the community by storing these vehicles in one location. Mr. Roen further stated his vision was for outdoor storage only with security, lighting, fencing and a gate key pad.

Commission discussed fencing versus screening, landscape buffers and the option for people to come back to the Commission to seek an alternate method to the Site Plan Ordinance should their situation/location not justify a six-foot, opaque fence or other landscape buffer.

Motion was made by Butler and seconded by Coleman to draft an ordinance including Chuck's four recommendations and including a fifth requirement allowing for a special use permit to the Board of Adjustment to regulate locations. Question was called for and on voice vote Chairperson Opie declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Consider request from Dan and Stacey Crow to amend the A-1 zoning classification to allow private campgrounds.**

Chuck reviewed the request with the Commission stating he researched several state, county and city regulations regarding campgrounds and found very little consistency. In most of the city and county ordinances reviewed, campgrounds are not listed as a permitted use. Chuck further shared Polk County's requirements and outlined the following requirements to be considered:

- Allow only as a special use within A-1 zoning requiring additional approval by the Board of Adjustment.
- Prohibit highway frontage.
- Mandate public restrooms/showers.
- Street and camp site lighting.

Stacey Crow spoke on behalf of her request stating her family owns 185 acres on the south side of Indianola. She has been consulting with Chip Smith, President of the Iowa Chapter of Camping, to gain better knowledge of private campgrounds. Mrs. Crow would like to have camp sites with full hook ups, sewer/water/electric that will accommodate larger campers. She wants to plan the project with two phases and the first phase would have 100 camp sites with restrooms, a storm shelter, laundry facilities and future camping cabins.

Commission discussed the existing areas where A-1 zoning exists and that a private campground may not be appropriate. Commission discussed the potential to place a special use permit condition on the ordinance to allow Board of Adjustment to regulate site specific areas and require adjacent property owner notification.

Farris questioned whether it was possible to create a separate zoning classification that allows for private campgrounds and having the land rezoned. Commission agreed that a special use permit would be best.

Motion was made by Rabe and seconded by Soldwisch to draft an ordinance including Chuck's four recommendations, Polk County's requirements, a park layout plan requirement and an adjacent property owner notification requirement. Question was called for and on voice vote Chairperson Opie declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Other Business**

Chuck informed the Commission that Council approved the preliminary plat of Ashton Park Plat 6 at their September 19, 2016 meeting.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Ormsby and seconded by Rabe.

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Doug Opie, Chairperson

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Mindi Robinson