



## **LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The City of Tomah Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) met in session on **Tuesday, April 26, 2022** at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 819 Superior Ave, Tomah, WI, and via Zoom teleconference. The meeting access information was provided on the posted agenda. The meeting agenda notice was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in compliance with the provisions of Section 19.84 Wisconsin Statutes.

**Call to Order – Roll Call:** D. Powell called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Members present: Shawn Zabinski, Eric Prise, Dustin Powell, Mike Murray, Jeff Holthaus, Tina Thompson (5:32 p.m.), Pete Reichardt (5:34 p.m.) Absent: Adam Gigous and JoAnn Westpfahl. Quorum present.

Also in attendance: Building Inspector Shane Rolff, Public Works Director Kirk Arity, and Deputy City Clerk Nicole Jacobs.

**Nomination and election of Officers:** T. Thompson nominated D. Powell for Committee Chairperson. Second by S. Zabinski. There were no other nominations. D. Powell was duly elected Chairperson of the Long Range Planning Committee. T. Thompson nominated P. Reichardt as Committee Vice-Chairperson. Second by J. Holthaus. There were no other nominations. P. Reichardt was duly elected Vice-Chairperson of the Long Range Planning Committee.

**Approval of Tuesday, January 25, 2022 Long Range Planning Committee meeting minutes:** Motion by M. Murray, second by S. Zabinski, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

**Discussion on the role of the LRPC with Scott Harrington and Ben Rohr, representatives from Vandewalle & Associates, the City's new planning consultants:** S. Harrington and B. Rohr appeared via Zoom to discuss different opportunities for the future of the LRPC and how the Committee's role could evolve overtime to drive change in the community. B. Rohr summarized ideas they came up with based on preliminary discussions with staff, including the following: actively identifying and prioritizing redevelopment and new development sites, researching different types of businesses that are needed/wanted in the community, generate new housing, facilitate discussions and negotiations for community development, and act as the City's conduit to regional partners. S. Harrington suggested the LRPC possibly reorganize as a Redevelopment Authority (RDA.) S. Harrington also suggested creating a work schedule/plan to keep on task month to month, which could be revised annually as work is completed and new work needed. D. Powell asked what staff's opinions were. K. Arity felt the LRPC hasn't had a clear mission in the past and that a little bit of structure would do the committee good and while he thinks the idea of an RDA is interesting, clarity on the committee's direction is more important at this time. D. Powell suggested committee members take the information and ideas presented, digest it and come back to the next LRPC meeting with ideas on how to move forward.

**Discussion and possible recommendation on adding alternate members to City committees/commissions:** S. Rolff explained that too often the committee struggles to have a quorum and meetings end up being cancelled. Rolff suggested having alternate members to

ensure having a quorum. M. Murray agreed to look into finding an alternate member. Motion by S. Zabinski, second by T. Thompson to direct S. Rolff to come back with ordinance amendment to add an alternate member to the LRPC. Motion carried.

**Discussion and possible recommendation to approve Long Range Planning Committee representative on the 7 Rivers Alliance:** S. Rolff suggested it would be beneficial to the committee if it had a representative attend meetings of the 7 Rivers Alliance and the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission (RPC). Motion by S. Zabinski, second by J. Holthaus for S. Zabinski to attend RPC meetings as the LRPC representative. Motion carried. T. Thompson already sits on 7 Rivers Alliance and agreed to officially bring an update back to the LRPC.

**Reviewing Certificate of Appropriateness-1118 Superior Ave (Building/Site Improvement):** S. Rolff presented a Super Graphic Design for the Veterans Assistance Foundation to be placed on the side of the building located at 1118 Superior Ave. Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce researched public art projects and how well they are often received and found they often times generate tourism. Using ARPA funds, they were able to approve a design the artist came up with for a mural. Motion by J. Holthaus, second by S. Zabinski, to approve Certificate of Appropriateness at 1118 Superior Ave. T. Thompson abstained. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** The committee set the next meeting date for Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 819 Superior Ave, Tomah, WI.

**Adjournment:** Motion by S. Zabinski, second by T. Thompson to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Nicole Jacobs*

Nicole Jacobs, Deputy City Clerk, May 13, 2022