

**CITY OF COHASSET
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
305 NW FIRST AVENUE, COHASSET, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Josh Casper called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Voting Members Present: Josh Casper, Steve Lavalier, Mike Rock, Harlow Zeppelin, Scott Gerling, GiGi Pehrson & Lucas Thompson

Absent with Notice: None

Ex-Officio Members Present: Zoning Tony Valtinson and City Council Liaison/Mayor Andy MacDonell

Others Present: Mark (Willie Transport), Ann Walker

3. **Review and Approve the Agenda**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

A motion was made by Gerling/Rock to approve the agenda as written. Voting in favor: Casper, Lavalier, Rock, Zeppelin, Gerling, Pehrson & Thompson; Voting against: None; Absent: None, Motion carried.

4. **Resident Input:**

7:17pm Anne Walker (resident) inquired about Pokegema Lake Association attending site visits as she was told that this was done in the past as well as how site visits were done and who is informed about them. Anne also inquired about the duties of the Planning Commission. Anne then inquired if the Planning Commission was aware of the issue she had brought to the City Council regarding a boathouse and inquired about the variance process.

5. **Review and approve Planning Commission minutes of November 2nd, 2022.**

A motion was made by Rock/Lavalier to approve the November 2, 2022 Planning Commission minutes with correction. Voting in favor: Casper, Lavalier, Rock, Zeppelin, Gerling, Pehrson & Thompson; Voting against: None; Absent: None, Motion carried.

6. **Review and approve Planning Commission Meeting Schedule for 2023**

A motion was made by Rock/Zepelin to approve the 2023 Planning Commission meeting schedule changing July 5, 2023 to July 12, 2023. Voting in favor: Casper, Lavalier, Rock, Zeppelin, Gerling, Pehrson & Thompson; Voting against: None; Absent: None, Motion carried.

7. **Review of Zoning Ordinance 10.103 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS – SIGNS**

Valtinson recaps November Planning Commissions meeting that the Sign Ordinance was brought to the attention of the PC requesting review now open for discussion. Valtinson then went through the packet and discussed what he had found regarding sign ordinances in surrounding and similar communities and discussion was held.

No comment from Thompson and Pehrson beyond general discussion and questions.

Gerling comments he respects the current Sign Ordinance.

Zeppelin comments he is fine with the Sign Ordinance.

Rock comments he is comfortable with the current Sign Ordinance.

Casper comments he is comfortable with what is on the Sign Ordinance.

Lavalier expressed concern over billboards commenting he believes that billboards are safety hazards and distract from businesses etc. and that public opinion polls find that most American's think billboards are ugly, intrusive and uninformative.

A motion was made by Lavalier to amend Ordinance 10.103 to restrict any future Billboards within the City of Cohasset. A Second to the motion was not made, motion does not pass.

Further discussion was held

Mark from Willie Transport presented his concern with the process that he has to go through including cost of variance to reface their existing with a small increase in size because of setbacks. He stated that the original sign was an 8x12 foot sign and this is the size he is looking to increase to.

No other motion was made regarding the sign ordinance and the Planning Commission tabled item number 7.

8. Make recommendation to City Council to re-appoint Josh Casper to Planning Commission. (term expires 1-31-2023)

A recommendation to City Council was made by Thompson/Zeppelin to re-appoint Josh Casper to Planning Commission. Voting in favor: Casper, Lavalier, Rock, Zeppelin, Gerling, Pehrson & Thompson; Voting against: None; Absent: None, Motion carried.

9. Make recommendation to City Council re-appoint Lucas Thompson to Planning Commission. (term expires 1-31-2023)

A recommendation to City Council was made by Rock/Lavalier to re-appoint Lucas Thompson to Planning Commission. Voting in favor: Casper, Lavalier, Rock, Zeppelin, Gerling, Pehrson & Thompson; Voting against: None; Absent: None, Motion carried.

FYI: None

Adjourn: Chair Josh Casper adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.