



## **Planning Commission Meeting Minutes** **Tuesday September 24<sup>th</sup>,2024 at 6:00PM**

### **I. Call to order-Mayor Monson**

A regular planning commission meeting was called to order by Mayor Monson at 6:00PM in Council Chambers of City Hall at 5335 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Zephyrhills Fl.

### **II. Roll Call by Carlos Maldonado**

### **III. Commission Members Present:**

Mayor Monson, David Armstrong, Beth Aker, Thomas Vanater (Missed roll call, arrived at 6:36PM), Dr. Randy Stovall, Ellen Taylor (Absent), Dr. Christa Remington, Tracy Sullivan, Clyde Bracknell.

### **IV. Invocation by Beth Aker**

### **V. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **1. Consent Items**

##### **1.1 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from August 27<sup>th</sup>,2024.**

The minutes were motioned for approval by all board members.

#### **2. Business Items**

##### **2.1 Proposed Transportation and Mobility Element Goal, Objective, and Policies.**

The item was introduced by Todd Vandenberg; he gave a summary on the transportation element and mentioned the importance for the city to improve and make updates to the Transportation Element and comprehensive plan. Additional projects relating to the improvements for the transportation aspect of the city were discussed. The discussion was taken over by the city's transportation engineer on record Tammy Vrana. She began by discussing the proposed goals, objectives and policies. An overview was reviewed and the reason for the meeting was to present the goals, objectives and policies. This will replace what was adopted in the past and receive public input and the planning commission board can make a recommendation for city council. Planning process, strategy to meet needs, proposed goal, objectives and policies, discussion and public input and commission action will all be reviewed via this meeting. During the review for the planning process, topics that are investigated are safety, hot spot areas, freight movement, congested areas and



data crashes. A strategy to meet needs and address issues were traffic safety counter measures, walk/bike infrastructure. The first counter measure is to complete streets and align the city design standards with states and national guidelines. Due to high development the DOT (Department Of Transportation) adopted standards so the city must comply with all regulations on all current and future development. Also obtaining funding to complete a safety action plan and additional grant for implementation is available. Sidewalks gaps are being reviewed for safety needs and missing sidewalks could be implemented. Greenway and Multi-use trails; plan and implement a network of greenways and multi-use trails that support active transportation, recreation, and connectivity to parks, preserves, and centers within the city and region. Public transit was discussed such as bus stop improvements also mentions to collaborate with GO Pasco to upgrade bus stops in Zephyrhills, enhancing safety, accessibility, and comfort for bus riders throughout the city. Thoroughfare capacity projects were mentioned such as proposed Bypass Loop Road; upgrade existing arterial roads that generally encircle the City. Chancey Rd/ Old Lakeland Hwy; widen and modernize these roads that are located with the city's industrial corridor to enhance safety measures. Continuing street projects discussed were county road 54 widening and modernize from US 98; reason is helps improve safety and travel delays. Next project mentioned was Eiland Blvd/ Morris Bridge Rd; goal is to widen and modernize, to achieve same goal as the previous project. Integrated Transportation and Land Use discussion went over plans on Joint Planning Area to collaborate with Pasco County to effectively manage growth and development within the joint regions. Community Redevelopment Area was discussed, and goal was to restore the city's historic street grid to a system of two-lane, bi-directional streets in hopes to enhance safety and mobility for all residents. Continued integrated transportation and land use topics mentioned were a smart corridor design; to have a clear purpose to create safe streets and efficient roads. The proposed overarching goal was; our community is committed to develop and maintain a smart, sustainable, multimodal transportation system that prioritizes safety, accessibility, and equity. Next Goal; The transportation system will be responsible for the diverse needs of all residents, regardless of age, ability, income, location and will support mobility, independence, and participation in economic, social, and cultural opportunities. 8 Supportive objects that are important moving forward are; 1.1 Needs assessment, 1.2 Level of Service Standards, 1.3 Project Prioritization and Funding, 1.4 Alignment with City Goals and Initiatives, 1.5 Safety and Accessibility, 1.6 Interconnected Transportation Network, 1.7 Development Design and 1.8 Innovation and Technology. During the presentation a word cloud slide was presented, it had terms that came up via the policies, one that

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got the planning commission member's attention was Lighting. Concern on dark areas was discussed and certain intersections and streets with lighting issues are identified as hot spots, these locations will be addressed and a plan to improve will be implemented. Per the planning director hot spots are identified as lighting issues on intersections, drainage, sidewalk improvements and others will be identified, and a list of hot spot topics can be made. A possible program available used by the county as well is the Comprehensive safety action plan. It can investigate the hot spot issues, especially where there have been accidents or near misses, and the program does require a fund. Per Todd he had a meeting with FDOT, and the light topic was reviewed. Numerous concerned areas are currently being reviewed such as left turn signals on Pretty Pond and SR 301, the current flashing yellow is confusing drivers. The turn signal in that intersection should be installed soon. Mayor Monson stated moving forward any new sidewalks being installed should come with lights. Future lighting for the new Hercules Park was discussed. The closing discussion was on city projects and road improvements. Per Vanater the County Safety committee has begun the discussion on the flashing lights throughout Pasco County, no follow up yet. No further discussion was made on the item in discussion. Next Step for the Transportation and Mobility Element GOP's review will be to bring it to City Council for approval.

**Recommendation:** Motioned first for approval by Beth Aker and Seconded by Clyde Bracknell. All board members motioned approval. Next step will be to go to City Council. No date has been determined.

### **3. Other Items**

A small discussion on the new Esri software program that the city council approved for the GIS aspect of the city was discussed. The software should benefit mapping and proposed future projects modules coming into the city. The approved budget from this week's city council meeting was mentioned. The Zephyr Park remodel was mentioned and will be next park project for the city. It is being proposed as a multi-year program. Mentions on the city approving the new utility building, the proposed complete date will be 2 years. No other topics were discussed.

### **Adjourn**