

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Planning and Zoning Commission
For the City of Blanco
August 7, 2023, 6:30 PM
Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas 7860**

REGULAR MEETING:

1. Call Meeting to Order at 6:30 PM.
2. Establish a quorum. Brandon Carlson, Chair, Julie Alexander-Shacklett, Vice-Chair, Lynn DeVincenzo, Secretary, Marissa Mensik, Andrew Forsberg, Candy Cargill. Commissioner Inman attended via Zoom.
3. Announcements - **none**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting and Public Hearing, April 3, 2023 – tabled for September meeting. DeVincenzo made motion to table until complete minutes could be supplied by one of the Commissioners in attendance, Mensik seconded. **Tabled.**
2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting and Public Hearing, June 5, 2023. Mensik made a motion to approve, DeVincenzo seconded. **Unanimously approved.**
3. Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting, June 12, 2023. DeVincenzo made a motion to approve, Mensik seconded. **Unanimously approved.**
4. Consideration and Discussion Regarding Sign Ordinance 2011-392

DeVincenzo asked City Administrator Escovy about the status of the 281 Overlay Committee and hired Planner's work which should be taken into consideration. City Administrator Escovy said this was going to the City Council for approval. The ordinance states there is a sign administrator on City Council? Escovy said he is the sign administrator.

DeVincenzo asked for the sign application reviews to be more diligent, to avoid non-compliance, for instance setback and following the ordinance. The City Administrator said the city is reviewing the applications.

Carlson asked the Commissioners what their thoughts were about pole signs:

Mensik said some good and some bad. She does not mind them.

DeVincenzo said pole signs are not favorable and look like billboards.

City Administrator Escovy said some cities do not like variances, however each city needs good variances on a case-by-case basis.

Carlson asked the Commissioners about electric signs:

Alexander-Shacklett said electronic signs have a place for some businesses but was concerned about the night sky designation.

Mensik is also concerned about night sky designation and wants to keep spirit of night sky.

Carlson likes electric signs for churches.

Carlson read the letter submitted by Heinz Rosch – who would like the sign ordinance updated to allow for electric signs within reason for some. The library has electric sign, police traffic sign is digital and could inform the public of safety. Carlson thought electronic signs were possible if not flashing or scrolling.

Alexander-Shacklett likes feather signs for businesses during business hours.

Mensik agreed that these signs could be on display temporarily, or during events.

Carlson thought it was ok if kept to a minimum number allowed.

City Administrator said ETJ should be following sign ordinance.

Mensik said businesses and city have 2 different goals. One wants to attract business and the city does not want to be gaudy. She thought incentives for “art signs” would be good.

Alexander-Shacklett thought Wimberly had nice art signs which were quaint and not gaudy.

Forsberg would like the ordinance to be less restrictive; goal is to have better signs but make the ordinance easier to understand.

Carlson and Alexander-Shacklett agreed a sub-committee would be helpful to collect from the Commissioners 3 likes and 3 dislikes of the ordinance. Alexander-Shacklett, Mensik, and Cargill will work together to collect and compile this information.

ADJOURN: 7:44 PM

Lynn DeVincenzo

Secretary of Planning and Zoning