

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BERKLEY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:30 P.M. APRIL 28, 2015 AT CITY HALL BY CHAIRPERSON BARNETT.

PRESENT: Martin Smith Mark Richardson Tim Murad
David Barnett Ann Shadle Michele Buckler
Eric Murrell Dottie Popp Joe Tangari

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Tara Hayes, 1021 Oxford
 Tina Edgar, Council Liaison
 David Sabuda, Finance Director
 Amy Vansen, City Planner

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**It was moved by Commissioner Murrell to approve the agenda.
Supported by Commissioner Popp.
AYES: Murrell, Richardson, Popp, Tangari, Shadle, Buckler, Smith, Murad, Barnett
NAYS: None
Motion Carried.**

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**It was moved by Commissioner Murad to approve the minutes of March 24, 2015.
Supported by Commissioner Shadle.
AYES: Murrell, Richardson, Tangari, Buckler, Popp, Shadle, Smith, Murad, Barnett
NAYS: None
Motion Carried.**

**It was moved by Commissioner Tangari to approve the minutes of April 14, 2015.
Supported by Commissioner Richardson.
AYES: Murrell, Richardson, Buckler, Popp, Shadle, Smith, Tangari, Murad, Barnett
NAYS: None
Motion Carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Vansen called attention to the DDA minutes, the report to City Council on vacant properties, information on recycling that Commissioner Richardson requested, an article from LSL Planning on housing types, and an invite to a Future of Woodward event.

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CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

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1. **PRESENTATION:** Presentation and consideration of the City's Capital Improvements Program

Finance Director David Sabuda was present. He reviewed the 2015-2022 proposed Capital Improvements Program. There are about \$34 million of proposed improvements. The water, sewer and roads alone are \$10.5 million. Last year's CIP had \$6.1 million in water, sewer, and road improvements. A new parking lot for the library and a new roof for the ice arena are slated for next year.

The DDA expires in 2020. Determining the future of the DDA will be a goal for next year. The City could extend it. It is a lot of work to extend it and the City will need to ask for the tax money again from all of the affected agencies and governmental units.

Commissioner Murad pointed out that the DDA captures money from many other government units puts that money back into Berkley.

The Commission asked about the money designated for recreation projects. Mr. Sabuda pointed out that the department is between directors. Every item that had a solid estimate is in the CIP. A new recreation plan will need to be started this year. He also noted that the Ice Arena is not operating at a deficit.

Commissioner Tangari observed that given the amount of money designated to streets and the number of streets in the City that it will take 51 years to complete the streets. He confirmed that priorities for street repaving or resurfacing have been set by the DPW.

It was moved by Commissioner Murad to recommend the Capital Improvements Program to the City Council.

Supported by Commissioner Tangari.

AYES: Shadle, Buckler, Richardson, Tangari, Murrell, Popp, Smith, Murad, Barnett

NAYS: None

Motion Carried.

2. **DISCUSSION:** Discussion regarding illuminated sign standards.

Ms. Vansen reviewed the proposed changes. The Commission was in favor of the new regulations and asked that the City Attorney review the proposed changes. Ms. Vansen advised that she would send the City Attorney the proposed ordinance.

It was moved by Commissioner Murrell to forward the proposed text change to Chapter 94 Signs to the City Attorney and to set a public hearing.

Supported by Commissioner Murad.

AYES: Shadle, Buckler, Richardson, Tangari, Murrell, Popp, Smith, Murad, Barnett

NAYS: None

Motion Carried.

3. **DISCUSSION:** Discussion regarding Woodward Complete Streets recommendations

The Commission discussed this matter at great length. There was concern regarding the proposed changes relative to traffic, snow removal, mixing of modes, and maintenance. There was discussion regarding the Locally Preferred Alternative to the transit location although that matter has been settled and is now going through an Environmental Impact Statement. Some commissioners proposed a third option for the Woodward right of way. The Commission asked if the designers could be present to

explain how they arrived at these options. Ms. Vansen advised that she would contact the Woodward Avenue Action Association and schedule it at an upcoming meeting.

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4. **DISCUSSION:** Discussion regarding Woodward 5 Sustainability Study’s recommendations.

The Commission discussed the recommendations in the Sustainability Study. Commissioner Buckler, who had been the project manager for the Study, clarified that it was a community based plan. It was meant as a blueprint to show what the community wanted to do as well as all the efforts already being made. She observed that city government can only do so much and does not have authority over many goals outlined in the plan.

There was then a general discussion over how to modify behavior: do laws change first or is a campaign the best first step.

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CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

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LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Popp will have a report on the Downtown Development Authority at the next meeting.

Commissioner Murad reported that the Chamber is planning its golf outing, the Art Bash, and an OctoberFest.

Commissioner Richardson reported that the Environmental Advisory Committee will be hosting the bike valet at the Art Bash and will be meeting with nearby environmental committees to discuss community solar.

Chairperson Barnett reported that the City Council approved the Art Bash and Fiber optics for the city facilities.

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STAFF/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Popp urged everyone to vote on Tuesday, May 5th.

Ms. Vansen advised that there would be a May work session to discuss a proposed Planned Unit Development with a developer.

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There being no further business, Chairperson Barnett adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.