

City of Lewisburg
Planning Commission Regular Session and Public Hearing
Meeting Minutes — March 2, 2023, 7 p.m.
942 Washington Street West, Lewisburg, WV
Paul L. Cooley Council Chambers

PRESENT: Chairperson John Little; Commissioners Dan Stevenson, Margaret Gossard, Matt Campbell, Valerie Pritt and City Manager Misty Hill; Planning and Zoning Officer Marsha Cunningham; Recording Officer Tina Alvey

ABSENT: Commissioners Tia Bouman, Helen Harless and Davis Lewis

VISITORS: Chris Chanlett

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Little at 7 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Dan Stevenson moved approval of the minutes of the February 2, 2023, working session. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Matt Campbell and approved 6-0, with Commissioners Tia Bouman, Helen Harless and Davis Lewis absent.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

***Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit:** Chris Chanlett, 249 Maple Street. Approval is sought for a permit to operate a three-plus bedroom AirBnB at the indicated address.*

Applicant advised the commissioners that for many years he has owned the lot on which he built a house in 2021. He has operated a legal two-bedroom AirBnB in that house for the past two years and is now seeking to expand that usage to a three or four bedroom rental, which usage requires he obtain a conditional use permit from the city. Chanlett said, while he now lives in Summers County, he intends to live in the Maple Street house eventually.

Planning and Zoning Officer Marsha Cunningham confirmed Chanlett has presented evidence that this AirBnB will not endanger health and public safety, injure the value of adjoining property, be out of harmony with the area in which it is located or be out of conformity with the official community plan. Legal advertisements concerning the permit application were published in two local newspapers 15 days prior to the hearing, notice of this public hearing were posted on the property in question, and all other required steps were fulfilled, Cunningham said.

There were no comments from the public at the hearing, nor were any correspondence received by the planning office regarding this matter. Commissioner Margaret Gossard made a motion to forward the application for a conditional use permit on to City Council with a positive recommendation. Stevenson seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0, with Bouman, Harless and Lewis absent.

COMMENTS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS: Asked whether a working

session would be scheduled in conjunction with an upcoming Commission meeting, Little said no working sessions would occur until the commissioners had heard back from Christy DeMuth concerning the revamp of the city's zoning ordinance.

Other questions about potentially permitting the operation of food trucks within city limits and the placement of wayfinding signage were mentioned but not resolved.

COMMENTS FROM PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICER: Cunningham said she had met with area Realtors to familiarize them with the city's AirBnB regulations and to encourage them to advise clients to contact her office for further information.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m., upon motion by Stevenson, seconded by Gossard, and approved 6-0, with Bouman, Harless and Lewis absent.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Alvey
Recording Officer