

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
PLAN COMMISSION

BOARD MEMBERS

Val Gomez, President
Anthony Serna, Vice President
Lilia Ramos, Secretary
Joanne Moricz, Commissioner
Chanthini Fowler, Commissioner
Douglass Sloss, Commissioner
William Allen, Commissioner
Lydia Lopez, Commissioner
Stacy Winfield, Commissioner

Regular Meeting Minutes
(Via Zoom Videoconference)
Wednesday, July 7, 2021 @ 4:30 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: Val Gomez
Present Via Zoom: Lilia Ramos, Joanne Moricz,
William Allen, Stacy Winfield

MR. GOMEZ: We do have a quorum.

STAFF: Present in Chambers: Richard Morrisroe, Douglas
Powers, Ateria Allen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of Monday,
June 21, 2021

Comments/Questions: None

Motion to approve June 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes made
by William Allen. Second by Lilia Ramos.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

1 CITY PLANNER'S REPORT:

2 MR. GOMEZ: We'll move on to New Business. We have the
3 City Planner's.

4 For the record Chanthini has joined the meeting.

5 (Chanthini Fowler present via Zoom)

6 MR. GOMEZ: Now we come to the City Planner's Report.
7 Doug, the floor is yours.

8 MR. POWERS: Thank you, Commissioners. So today we have
9 on the Development Plan Requirements.

10 The reason that I wanted to place this on the
11 agenda is primarily for twofold. This details a list in
12 regards to what it is that the various departments are
13 looking for in documents that get submitted to the Planning
14 Commission.

15 And not only does it do that, but it also
16 stipulates which documents and when development plans are
17 required.

18 For example if it's in a single-family dwelling or
19 if it's a single-family semidetached or two-family dwelling
20 remodeling of \$10,000 or greater would require a development
21 plan. And similar to the multifamily dwelling as to where
22 commercial and industrial are going to require development
23 plans whenever anything is submitted.

24 So when we go through these requirements here,
25 primarily the document that is submitted to the Planning
Commission is the site plan. That will have the items listed
under 1 through 8 through items M.

Another thing that has been realized is some of the
suggestions that were made from the previous Comprehensive
Plan in regards to landscaping requirements for future
developments was never input or revised within the Zoning
Ordinance.

So the Planning Department has been looking into
and investigating possible changes that may need to be made
within the Zoning Ordinance.

Any of those suggestions that we have, they would
come in front of the Planning Commission for the Planning

1 Commission's review. And if the Planning Commission was in
2 support of what was being proposed, that would then go in
front of the Common Council for amendment to the Ordinance.

3 Some of the recent issues, a lot of the ones that
4 we generally typically see in regards to site plans, need for
parking is one of the other issues.

5 But one of the current areas that we've been
6 looking into in regards to landscaping was whether or not
there should be requirements for screening of dumpsters in
multifamily and commercial properties.

7
8 I don't know if anyone has any questions for me or
if you would like me to discuss this any further.

9 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments?

10 MS. RAMOS: Mr. President, I have a question. Are these
11 requirements the requirements that are submitted to the
Technical Review Committee prior to them coming to the
12 Planning Committee?

13 MR. POWERS: That is correct.

14 I don't know. Mr. President, do you want to
acknowledge?

15 MR. GOMEZ: Just for record Commissioner Serna has
16 joined the meeting. Pastor Sloss also. Commissioners Serna
and Sloss have joined the meeting.

17 (Anthony Serna present in Chambers. Douglass
18 Sloss present via Zoom)

19 MR. SLOSS: I was trying to catch Serna. That's why I
was late. I was following him.

20 MR. POWERS: To answer Lilia's question, how the process
21 works is whenever someone is trying to submit a proposed
project on development within the City of East Chicago they
22 submit a project intake form. And the Planning Department
reviews to make sure that everything is there as required.

23 Then we schedule a Technical Review Meeting before
24 the Technical Review Committee at which time the various
departments in their expertise will note technical revisions
or corrections that need to be made prior to coming before
25 the Planning Commission at which time then the Planning

1 Commission will review the documents that have been deemed
2 technically correct by the various departments within East
Chicago.

3 And you will make your determination then at that
4 point on whether or not the project should be permitted to
5 move forward or if from your expertise there's issues that
6 may be outside the perimeters of the Technical Review
Committee's scope of revision that should be addressed prior
to getting Plan Commission approval.

7 MS. RAMOS: Okay.

8 MR. GOMEZ: Any other questions or comments?

9 MS. RAMOS: Thank you.

10 MR. POWERS: You're welcome.

11 MR. GOMEZ: Any other questions or comments?

12 OLD BUSINESS: None.

13 COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS: None.

14 PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.


15 * Next Regular Meeting Date: Monday, July 19, 2021
16 @ 4:30 p.m.

17 Motion to adjourn was made by Anthony Serna. Second by
18 Douglass Sloss.

19 Roll Call: "All in Favor": Val Gomez, Anthony Serna, Lilia
Ramos, Joanne Moricz, Chanthini Fowler, Douglas Sloss,
William Allen. No Response: Stacy Winfield
20 Abstain: None Opposed: None Motion Carries.

21 * Meeting ended at 4:40 p.m.
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Approval of Meeting Minutes of
Monday, July 7, 2021
Approved and Signed July 19, 2021



Val Gomez, President

Anthony Serna, Vice President

Lilia Ramos / Zoom

Lilia Ramos, Secretary

Joanne Moricz / Zoom

Joanne Moricz, Commissioner

Stacy Winfield / Zoom

Stacy Winfield, Commissioner

Douglass Sloss / Zoom

Douglass Sloss, Commissioner



William Allen, Commissioner

Lydia Lopez / Zoom

Lydia Lopez, Commissioner


Chanthini Fowler, Commissioner

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa Pena, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Portage, Indiana, this 15th day of July, 2021.



Lisa Pena
Notary Public Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003483

