

Chair Krent called the Regular meeting of the Troy City Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 28, 2020 in the Council Chamber of the Troy City Hall.

1. ROLL CALL

Present:

- Ollie Apahidean
- Karen Crusse
- Michael W. Hutson
- Tom Krent
- David Lambert
- Marianna Perakis
- Sadek Rahman
- John J. Tagle

Absent:

- Carlton M. Faison

Also Present:

- R. Brent Savidant, Community Development Director
- Ben Carlisle, Carlisle Wortman Associates
- Julie Quinlan Dufrane, Assistant City Attorney
- Jackie Ferencz, Planning Department Administrative Assistant
- Kathy L. Czarnecki, Recording Secretary

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution # PC-2020-01-007

- Moved by: Hutson
- Support by: Apahidean

RESOLVED, To approve the Agenda as prepared.

- Yes: All present (8)
- Absent: Faison

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution # PC-2020-01-008

- Moved by: Lambert
- Support by: Rahman

RESOLVED, To approve the minutes of the January 14, 2020 Regular meeting as submitted.

- Yes: All present (8)
- Absent: Faison

MOTION CARRIED

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – Items not on the Agenda

Avis Landmesser, 568 Ottawa, asked if the number of residential units could be included in the Planning Commission Annual Report.

CONDITIONAL REZONING

5. PUBLIC HEARING – CONDITIONAL REZONING REQUEST (File Number CR 2019-001 – Proposed MNK TROY 1, LLC, East of Rochester, South of Shallowdale (88-20-14-152-001 and 88-20-14-301-031), Section 14, From R-1C (One Family Residential), RT (One Family Attached Residential) and EP (Environmental Protection) Districts to RT (One Family Attached Residential) District

Mr. Carlisle stated the proposed Conditional Rezoning previously considered by the Planning Commission at its October 22, 2019 meeting is revised to seek approval to rezone all portions of the two parcels to RT (One Family Attached Residential). He referenced the voluntary conditions offered by the applicant and specifically addressed the Open Space Preservation Area proposed for the EP-zoned portion. Mr. Carlisle said if the rezoning application is granted approval, additional details of the Open Space Preservation Area would need to be provided.

Mr. Carlisle briefly reviewed the initial application and comments both from the Planning Commission and the public.

Mr. Carlisle addressed the split zoning of the northern parcel and front portion of the southern parcel. He said the proposed rezoning to RT is consistent with the Master Plan, noting the site has been master planned for medium density and multiple family residential for the past 20 years. Mr. Carlisle indicated the applicant is providing increased setbacks along the northern and eastern property lines to provide additional buffer.

Mr. Carlisle addressed the eastern portion of the southern parcel that is zoned EP. He explained the applicant is seeking to use the parcel for overall density and stormwater management. He said the proposed detention pond is utilitarian in design and the double row of trees to screen is insufficient. Mr. Carlisle said that both the detention area and tree screening would not serve as an amenity to future residents of the development or adjacent residents. Mr. Carlisle said a naturalized pond area such as a bio-swale or raingarden would enhance the development.

Mr. Carlisle recommended that the Planning Commission consider the revised application, take into consideration public comments this evening and provide direction to the applicant.

John Thompson of Professional Engineering Associates distributed a handout incorporating changes in the voluntary conditions offered by the applicant. He referenced condition #3 relating to the detention basin design as a dry pond and the addition of condition #8 relating to rear yard relationship and setbacks to existing houses and condition #9 enhancement to the screening of the Open Space Easement.

Mr. Thompson stated the revisions to the application and to the conditions offered by the applicant are a result of the feedback received from the neighbors and the Planning Commission. Mr. Thompson said a major concern of the neighbors is vehicular headlights shining toward adjacent single family homes. He said the additional row of screening trees and the orientation of the buildings would address that concern. Also, Mr. Thompson said the neighbors want a dry pond. The neighbors hope a dry pond improves the existing geese problem they are having as well eliminate insects drawn to standing water. He said a utilitarian design of the dry pond is preferred both by the neighbors and City departments for easier maintenance. Mr. Thompson addressed the proposed development as relates to the Rezoning Standards.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

- Naresh Gupta, 4337 Bennett Park Circle; addressed overall development along Rochester Road corridor from I-75 to the southern border of Troy as relates to the Master Plan and density, addressed concerns with traffic impact from development.
- Jim McCauley, 4435 Harold; representative of Shallowbrook Homeowners' Association. Mr. McCauley said the neighbors met with the builders since the application was considered in October and they are in support of the proposed development at this point in time. He referenced condition #8 offered by the applicant. Mr. McCauley said the intent with the rear yard relationship and a minimum of 35 feet building setbacks to existing houses on Shallowdale is to serve as a buffer, similar to the buffer of the existing EP-zoned parcel. He said the setbacks and additional screening will alleviate the concern of vehicular lights shining into the homes. Mr. McCauley said the neighbors want a dry detention basin to distract geese from their homes. Mr. McCauley asked that the applicant explore further turning either Building 3 or Building 4 to a rear yard setback to the dry detention pond; he was told it's not feasible but he is asking the applicant to research that matter further.
- Jon Hughes, 4495 Harold; expressed disappointment that they are losing the natural environment with the proposed development.

Mr. Savidant clarified for the record that Mr. McCauley was granted additional time to speak because he is spoke on behalf of the homeowners' association.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

There was discussion on:

- Landscaped screening of adjacent single family residential.
- Density; calculations, increase in number of units.
- History of EP-zoned parcel(s).
- Detention pond; as amenity, dry versus wet.
- Stormwater management; consideration of underground.
- Orientation of Buildings 3 or 4 to mitigate neighbors' concern with vehicular lights; if not feasible, additional landscaping for screening.
- Building height; no higher than what is permitted in R-1C residential.
- Dry pond.
 - Neighbors' concern with existing geese; preference of neighbors.
 - Utilitarian pond; DPW and Engineering preference for maintenance.
 - Location, depth, slope, shape, size.

Ms. Dufrane addressed the voluntary conditions offered by the applicant in relation to a conceptual plan and not an actual site plan. Ms. Dufrane said it would be best to meet with the applicant, the homeowners' association representative, Planning Consultant and administration to craft and/or wordsmith the conditions associated with the Conditional Rezoning request prior to consideration by City Council.

Mr. Savidant informed the audience the role of the Planning Commission is to make a recommendation to City Council. The public would have an opportunity to speak at the time City Council considers the item, and again during Site Plan consideration if the Conditional Rezoning is granted.

The applicant was advised to update the concept plan to show the rotation of buildings and additional screening prior to consideration by City Council.

Resolution # PC-2020-01-009

Moved by: Lambert

Support by: Rahman

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission hereby recommends to the City Council that the R-1C, RT and EP to RT Conditional Rezoning request, as per Section 16.04 of the City of Troy Zoning Ordinance, located on the east side of Rochester, south of Shallowdale, within Section 14, being approximately 1.877 acres in size, be **GRANTED** for the following reasons:

1. The request complies with the Master Plan.
2. The RT District would permit greater flexibility in use and development of the property.
3. The conditions offered by the applicant this evening reasonably protect the adjacent properties.
4. The rezoning would be compatible with surrounding zoning and land use.
5. The site can be adequately served with municipal water and sewer.
6. The development of the property should not unreasonably impact adjacent properties.

Yes: All present (8)
Absent: Faison

MOTION CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

6. PLANNING COMMISSION 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Savidant said the 2019 Planning Commission annual report indicates that 2019 was a very busy year. Mr. Savidant said he would look into the suggestion by Ms. Landmesser to include the number of residential units in the report.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present who wished to speak.

8. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENT

There were general Planning Commission comments, some relating to

- Positive outcome of communication between developer and neighbors to resolve concerns.
- Update on Tollbrook lawsuit.
- Joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting; February 4, Community Center Room 303, agenda, public engagement.
- 2020 Michigan Regional Future City Competition.

The Regular meeting of the Planning Commission adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

 FOR TOM KRENT

Tom Krent, Chair


Kathy L. Czarnecki, Recording Secretary