

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OWOSSO PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**March 26, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wascher at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Baker.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ronald Baker, Mike Bradley, Mike Bruff, Gary Burk, Tracy Butcher, Dallas Lintner, Linda Robertson, Cheryl Voss, William Wascher

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John C.M Davis, Frank Livingston

**MINUTES:**

It was moved by Commissioner Bruff and supported by Commissioner Voss to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2007 as presented.

AYES: All Motion Carried

NAYS:

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

1) Neighborhoods of Choice Program:

A) Review of Invitation to Census Tract 307 and Survey Instrument.

Phil Hathaway, the Community Development Director, discussed the letter of invitation to the residents in Census Tract 307 inviting them to a neighborhood meeting at Bryant School on April 23, 2007 at 7:30. The purpose of this meeting is to receive input from the residents on how they view their neighborhood and what improvements they would like to see the City make to their living environment. A one page survey will be sent with the invitation asking them 8 questions about their neighborhood we would like them to answer and expand upon.

The information collected from the meeting will be used to develop follow up actions to help preserve and improve the neighborhood.

B) City-wide Statistical Package/Project Notebook.

A 3-ring binder full of census statistics of the City, Mid-County and County was given to the Commissioners. This information will be used to better understand economic condition of each of the Census Tracts.

C) Description of Census Tract of 307 (SW Owosso).

The Commissioners focused on the economic and social statistics for the Southwest Owosso area—the first neighborhood meeting of the series.

2) DDA Capital Improvements Plan Review and Comments.

Phil Hathaway led a discussion about the following proposed capital improvements in the DDA district:

The Loop Park trail and Oakwood Bridge improvements, Comstock Center Rain Gardens Project, Street Tree Replacement Project, Greenway Lot Improvements, Ball/Mason Lot Renovations, North Park Street Design and Renovations, Planter Beds at Exchange Street, Water Front plan between the Shiawassee Arts Center and the 1225 Railroad Museum, Armory Development, Comstock Center Parking Lot Tree Islands, Downtown Parking Lot Redevelopment. It was explained that the projects are already in the Master Plan adopted by the Planning Commission. The CIP review occurs for evaluating the timing and extent of the projects. Also impact on city services or other plans is part of this review.

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It was moved by Commissioner Robertson and supported by Commissioner Bradley to endorse the DDA Capital Improvement Plan.

AYES: All, Motion Carried  
NAYS:

3) Jerome Street/Loop Park Pre-Design Review and Comment.

Phil Hathaway led a discussion of the planned redesign of Jerome Street from the Comstock Parking lot to Dewey Street. The new features include curb and gutter on both sides of the street with parallel parking on the south side of the street from Hickory St. to Oak Street. An attempt will be made to have angle parking on the south side of the street from Oak Street to Dewey Street if there is enough room between the existing trees and the north right of way line. There were no specific suggestion to pass along to the consultant firm. The initial design will be submitted to the Commission for review at the April meeting.

4) Westown Neighborhood Enterprise Zone.

Mark Lamphere, property owner in Westown, has requested the designation of a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone in the Westown area that will include at least the 800 and 900 blocks of West Main Street. It was also recommended to extend northwesterly to include the Vaungarde site in the enterprise zone and to extend westerly on the south side of Main Street to State Street.

It was moved by Commissioner Butcher and supported by Commissioner Robertson to recommend the City Council establish a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone that includes the above described areas.

AYES: All; Motion Carried  
NAYS:

**COMMISSIONER/CITIZEN COMMENTS:** The death of Robert Teich, Sr. over the weekend was recognized with a moment of silence and a nice remembrance of Bob by Phil Hathaway about his long time leadership with the Planning Commission. His civic nature, knowledgeable experience and guidance will be missed by the community.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Commissioner Robertson and supported by Commissioner Voss to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: All; the motion carried  
NAYS:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

mmj

Ronald Baker  
Secretary