

Joint Public Hearing Minutes
Planning Board / City Council Ordinance Committee
Zone Change – Special Permits of the City Council be changed to Special Permits of the Planning Board
(meeting is being recorded)

On Tuesday, December 9, 2014, the Holyoke Planning Board opened the Joint Public Hearing with the Ordinance Committee of the City Council (continued from Sept 30th) regarding Zone Change amendments to Section 4.3 Table of Principal Use where as a use by right requiring a Special Permit of the City Council be changed to a Special Permit of the Planning Board and consider whether it is more appropriate for the Planning Board or the City Council to issue any of the Special Permits that are not explicitly listed in Section 4.3. The Public Hearing was held in the City Council Chambers, 536 Dwight Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Planning Board

Mimi Panitch
Christian LaChapelle.....
Mark Joy.....
Eileen Regan
John Kelley.....

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary
Member
Member

Planning Department

Marcos Marrero.....
Jeffrey Burkott
Claire Ricker
Sharon Konstantinidis.....

Director
Principal Planner
Senior Planner
Head Clerk

Ordinance Committee

Rebecca Lisi
Gordon Alexander.....
Linda Vacon.....
David Bartley
Jennifer Chateaufneuf

At Large Councilor
Ward 7 Councilor
Ward 5 Councilor
At Large Councilor
At Large Councilor

City Council

Joseph McGiverin.....
Jossie Valentine

At Large Councilor
Ward 4 Councilor

Others Present

Kara Cunha.....

2nd Assistant City Solicitor

MIMI PANITCH, at 6:47 p.m., called for a motion to reopen the Public Hearing for a Zone Change Amendment to Special Permits. A motion was made by JOHN KELLEY and seconded by MARK JOY. The motion carried 5-0.

COUNCILOR ALEXANDER stated that the Planning Board was the expert in Planning and zoning issues. There are many Special Permits where the legislative body has crafted the criteria and defined the circumstances in which one can obtain a Special Permit. Following that, the Planning Board should be the entity that determines if those guidelines have been met for the issuance of a Special Permit.

COUNCILOR LISI stated that the Special Permits should be reviewed in their entirety and noted that the Ordinance Committee was currently not prepared to discuss it in detail as it was not listed appropriately on their agenda.

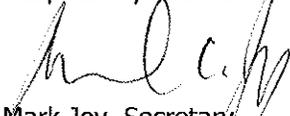
MIMI PANICH stated that the Planning Board was following the Ordinance Committee's lead and was comfortable with continuing the Hearing to a later date.

COUNCILOR LISI requested that the second Tuesday of the month be reserved for discussions of this nature.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, MIMI PANITCH, at 6:56 p.m., called for a motion to continue the Joint Public Hearing until February 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. A motion was made by CHRIS LACHAPELLE and seconded BY EILEEN REGAN. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Mark Joy, Secretary
Holyoke Planning Board