

Joint Public Hearing Minutes
City Council Ordinance Committee / Planning Board
Zone Change – BG to IP, Whiting Farms Road 18-acre Parcel Con't
(meeting is being recorded)

On Tuesday, September 30, 2014, the Holyoke Planning Board held the continuation of a Joint Public Hearing with the Ordinance Committee of the City Council (from 11/26/13, 1/14/14, 2/25/14, 4/22/14, 5/27/14, 7/22/14, and 8/12/14) regarding a Zone Change Petition from BG (General Business) to IP (Industrial Park) for the land in Holyoke, Massachusetts identified by the City's Assessors as Map 116, Block 00, Parcel 001 also known as the Whiting Farms Road 18-Acre Parcel. The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers, 536 Dwight Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Attendance:

Planning Board

Mimi Panitch	Chairman
Christian LaChapelle.....	Vice-Chairman
Mark Joy.....	Secretary
Eileen Regan	Member
John Kelley.....	Member

Planning Department

Marcos Marrero.....	Director
Jeffrey Burkott	Principal Planner
Claire Ricker	Senior Planner
Sharon Konstantinidis.....	Head Clerk

Ordinance Committee

Gordon Alexander.....	Ward 7 Councilor
Linda Vacon.....	Ward 5 Councilor
David Bartley	At Large Councilor
Jennifer Chateaufneuf	At Large Councilor

City Council

Joseph McGiverin.....	At Large Councilor
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Others Present

Kara Cunha.....	2 nd Assistant City Solicitor
Gayle Keith	6 Farnum Drive, Holyoke First

MIMI PANITCH, at 6:30 p.m., called for a motion to reopen the Public Hearing continuation for the Whiting Farms Road 18-acre Parcel Zone Change. A motion was made by JOHN KELLEY and seconded by MARK JOY. The motion carried 5-0.

The Board and City Council Ordinance Committee viewed the Power Point presentation (File #2013-10) of the Whiting Farms Road 18-acre Parcel survey results. The survey was distributed to 892 addresses which yielded 361 total responses received; 172 paper responses and 189 on-line surveys.

See File #2013-10 for details of the survey results. The Board and City Council reviewed the abutting zones and potential uses.

MIMI PANITCH asked if anyone from the public wished to speak in favor or against, or ask questions.

GAYLE KEITH stated that when filling out the survey, she did not realize that one of the pictures she had chosen was that of a car dealership as the images were not labeled. She had chosen the nicest looking picture as others most likely did as well. She added that many of the residents she has spoken to have been enthusiastic about the concept of age 55+ housing. It is a big parcel and there is a lot of room.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, MIMI PANITCH, at 7:22 p.m., called for a motion to close the Joint Public Hearing. A motion was made by JOHN KELLEY and seconded by EILEEN REGAN. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Mark Joy, Secretary
Holyoke Planning Board