February 6, 2013 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

The Eudora Planning Commission met in regular session on Wednesday evening, February the Eudora Municipal Building. Four members were present: Chairman Kurt von Achen, Jasc Grant Martin and Tim Pringle. Glenn Bartlett, Richard Campbell and Johnny Stewart were ab

Also present were City Manager John Harrenstein, Codes Administrator Curt Baumann, Co Scott Michie of Scott A. Michie Planning Services, Economic Development Director Collin Biel Barack Matite and Reporter John Schulz.

Chairman von Achen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and noted a quorum was pre: pledge of allegiance was recited and the minutes of the January 2, 2013 meeting were appro circulated. He invited Manager Harrenstein to make his report.

Harrenstein had an extensive list of items the city had dealt with in its past several meetin several were of special interest to the Planning Commission. He said the city has refunded th the Recreation Center, the Downtown Improvement and some remodeling of City Hall. This v approximately $30,000 per year, which can help pay the city's share of the overpass over Hig the grant is received. Harrenstein said Eudora has an "A" rating with Standard & Poor but the sold with a double A rating, which evidences the city's good financial situtation.

Harrenstein told the commission that a Shadow Ridge Park at long last is going in on the Sc corner of the Middle School parking lot and it should be open by June, and a Parks and Recre endowment fund has been set up and approved by the auditors. This will make it easier for d contribute, he said.

Harrenstein also said the city has contracted with The Larkin Group as city engineers, and (will be reviewing new construction in the city. He said the city has executed Memorandums c Understanding with the Eudora Chamber of Commerce and the Eudora Area Historical Societ into writing certain agreements and solidifies arrangements which had been by word of mout

He praised Codes Administrator Baumann and Intern Matite for the work they have done v Grandview Mobile Home Park. He said they now have a working partnership with the owner a the manager, and he was pleasantly surprised when 78% of the residents signed the documer community living standards.

He told the commission the city has recently annexed two pieces of property owned by Rol on 20th Street east of the Baptist Church, and a third piece, owned by the Trust of the late Har Livingood Trust will be annexed at the next City Commission meeting. Wilson requested the a because his well had gone dry and he wanted to obtain city water. This land was not in the Ru District and service has been extended to it. The owners have agreed for the properties to be platted, and the area will be known as the Wilson-Livingood Addition.

Harrenstein reminded the commission that they will need to obtain right-of-way from these properties for 20h Street. He said part of the problem with 20th Street was rectified by agreen Mark Gabriel and Allan Ott, but more needs to be done, and since he is leaving the end of Feb his new position in Mankato, Minnesota, he wanted to make the commission aware of the rig problem.

Harrenstein told the commission he has enjoyed working with them and that leaving Eudora is bittersweet. You have a terrific city and a forward-thinking City Commission and I look forward to hearing about future successes, h e said. Chairman von Achen responded that the commission has been happy to work with Harrenstein, and that he is sorry to see him go.

In answer to a question as to how soon a new City Manager can be expected, Harrenstein said that at a retreat last weekend, the commission retained the Art Davis Search Firm and applications are tentatively due by March 26, with interviews to be in April. He added that an interim manager will be named with a decision after February 13.

At this point Collin Bielser, Eudora Economic Development Director, surprised the commission by saying that he, too, is leaving on February 15, as the City of Baldwin City made him an offer he could not resist.

The Building Inspector's report by Baumann and Matite showed 15 permits issued in January for an estimated valuation of $50,225, with fees amounting to $780. This was five more permits than were issued in January of 2012.

There was no one present to make a public comment and there were no public hearings on the agenda, so Chairman von Achen called for the Old Business item, "Consider setting a public hearing date in March for Comprehensive Plan text amendments that would add a multimodal transportation plan map based on the 2012 Eudora Parks and recreation Master Plan". He asked Consultant Michie to address the item.

Michie spoke mainly to the question of bike lanes, which are a five foot wide marked lane in a street for bicyclists. He said that works in larger cities with wider streets, but in Eudora the streets are too narrow to allow for the paths, so he recommends a change and advocates for "Sidepath Shared Use Paths" for both bicyclists and walkers, and there is a "Multimodal Transportation Map" attached to the text to be adopted as a new map in the Eudora Comprehensive Plan.

He said the shared use paths should be built 8 to 12 feet wide and recommends them for Church Street from 10th Street south across K-10 to the secondary schools campus, and for 12th Street to provide connectivity from west and central Eudora neighborhoods to the church Street Corridor, and a 10th Street Corridor to provide east-west connectivity east of Church Street to the Elementary School and east Eudora neighborhoods. The amendment also asks for a K-10 stand-alone pedestrian overpass for connecting north-south Eudora over the Expressway. It asks for related sidewalk improvements to the Eudora school district campuses and raised table crosswalks (for safety and traffic calming) across 10th Street and across Church Street at 12th, 14th, 20th and 24th Streets.

Grant Martin pointed out that the raised table crossing should be at 23rd and not 24th Street. **Martin then moved to set a public hearing for March 6, 2013 to consider the Comprehensive Plan text amendment.** Jason Hoover seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor, 4-0.

Chairman von Achen clarified that this will also be the annual update of the Eudora Long-range Comprehensive Plan.

The next item on the agenda was under New Business: Consider submitting a letter of support to KDOT for the Eudora Transportation grant.

Bielser told the commission that he had made a presentation on the K-10 Overpass at the January meeting, and suggested that the Planning Commission send a letter of support. He had drafted a letter, the commissioners present read it, and **Tim Pringle moved to accept the letter.** Jason Hoover seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor, 4-0.

Bielser said he would personally get the signatures of the other three commission members not present, as the deadline is February 15.

After some conversation concerning the joint Eudora Planning Commission/Lawrence Douglas County Planning Commission meeting on the Penny sand-pit application last week in Lawrence where both commissions voted against the application, and it was noted that staff reports from the Lawrence-Douglas County staff had not been received by Eudora.

Jason Hoover moved to adjourn, Grant Martin seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman, Kurt von Achen

Signed: _____
Marge Gronniger, Secretary