

CITY OF TULARE PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tulare Public Library—Council Chambers
491 North M Street

May 24, 2021

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Miller, Olivares, Rocha, Miguel

TEENS ON BOARD PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Traci Myers, Community & Economic
Development Director
Megan Dodd, Attorney
Mario Anaya, Principal Planner
Steven Sopp, Senior Planner
Lucie Brown, Commission Clerk

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Miguel called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commission Clerk Brown led us in the flag salute.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

None

CONSENT CALENDAR:

(1) Minutes of the April 26, 2021 Regular Planning Commission Meeting

It was motioned by Commissioner Rocha and seconded by Commissioner Olivares to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING:

None

GENERAL BUSINESS—NON PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

(1) Appeal- Knight Transportation:

Director Myers presented the Commission with an appeal by Knight Transportation to the Community and Economic Director's denial of Administrative Approval 21-00078; a request by Appellant to install a 10 foot tall perimeter electrified security fence in addition to an existing 6 foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire. Director Myers provided the Commission with an overview of the Appellant request as well as her findings for denial of the Administrative Approval. She further noted that a representative for the Appellant was in the audience and requested an opportunity to present the Commission with his presentation.

Chairman Miguel and the Commissioners were not opposed to giving the Appellant an opportunity to present his presentation.

Keith Kaneko, AMAROK Representative, provided the Planning Commission with a power point presentation addressing the type of fence, the need for the fence and addressing the concerns presented by Director Myers. He then made himself available to the Commission to answer any questions they may have.

Commissioner Olivares asked if there was any data from the Tulare Police Department regarding the criminal activity at that location.

Director Myers stated that she had the Police Department look up all the calls for service at that location. She stated that over those 2 years there were 11 calls for service; 6 were for suspicious individuals and that there was two for stolen vehicles.

Chairman Miguel stated that he can see both sides of this request. With that being said, he stated that the request does not meet the intent of the General Plan or the Municipal Code/Zoning Ordinance.

Commissioner Miller stated that Knight Transportation is facing unprecedented challenges when it comes to business as usual. She noted that the current fencing is not sufficient, padlocks on the trailers is not sufficient and neither are the guards and feels they are left with no other option to protect their business. She further stated that she is certain that Knight Transportation will not be the only business looking to do this in the near future.

Megan Dodd, City Attorney, noted that it is the job of the Planning Commission to interpret the Zoning Ordinance and the current Ordinance is not written to allow for this type of fencing.

Chairman Miguel asked if the Commission denies the appeal can the Commission still make a recommendation to the City Council to look into revising our current Ordinance pertaining to this type of fence.

Commissioner Olivares stated that he is not comfortable approving this specific request with the way our Ordinance is currently written. He did note that he does feel the need to have current Ordinance revised.

Director Myers stated that she will be sure to make City Council aware of the Commissions' interest in revising the current Zoning Ordinance pertaining to this type of fencing.

Following Commission discussion it was motioned by Commissioner Rocha and seconded by Commissioner Olivares to deny the appeal by Knight Transportation and recommend to the City Council the revision of the current Zoning Ordinance pertaining to electrified security fencing.

COMMISSIONERS

AYES: Rocha, Olivares, Miguel

ABSENT: Cox

NOES: Miller

ABSTAIN: None

TEENS ON BOARD:

None

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Director Myers, announced that she has been in discussion with the developers on the Prosperity Ave. project and they are looking at a date for a celebration regarding their project.

AJOURNMENT:

There being no other items to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

CHUCK MIGUEL, CHAIRMAN
City of Tulare Planning Commission

ATTEST:

TRACI MYERS, SECRETARY
City of Tulare Planning Commission