

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilwoman Brackman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Reynolds, Councilman Sheldon

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Jennifer R. John, Deputy Director of Housing and Development Kasie Foulk, Council President Dolce, Councilman Paterniti, Councilman Daversa

Councilwoman Brackman called the meeting to order.

Opportunities for Public Comment

Dawn Thompson, 119 Fulton Street spoke regarding 125 Fulton Street which has been condemned for some time. People are breaking in and trespassing on her property to get into the abandoned property. Would like to know when it is scheduled to be demolished.

Rhonda Swanson, 711 Lafayette Street spoke regarding proposed changes to the zoning map and noted her concerns for the neighboring properties and the homeowners that are living in the area. She finds it unfair to potentially increase traffic and noted that she would like the C-M district to return to a residential zone. She added a concern regarding Jackson Taylor Park and the possibility that sprawl will follow and impact the park negatively.

Kasie Foulk addressed Ms. Swanson's concerns and stated that the proposed change does not allow for car dealerships or any large scale manufacturing. The proposal allows for businesses like coffee shops, bike rentals, small retail operations or single-chair barbershops. The soil in the area is not conducive for new builds and the idea is to use the empty structures that are already there and usable to bring small business to the area. With the Riverwalk nearby, there is opportunity for small businesses to operate there. Ms. Foulk reminded everyone that consultants are working on the updated zoning code for the city. That won't be ready for some time, so that is the need to address this particular area separately. She also stated that the area in question can be adjusted to exclude the side streets that are nearby as they are heavily residential in nature.

Councilman Paterniti stated that the fate of the property on the corner of Highland and Palmer, which has been discussed in previous meetings, is in the hands of the state currently as it has been deemed historic. The property is in deplorable condition, but cannot be demolished until SHPO authorizes the city to do so. The property is owned by the Land Bank and it has been

requested that they trim the trees and bushes that have overgrown onto the sidewalk. This property is near Lincoln Elementary School and he is concerned about the safety of the children that walk to school.

Richard Powell, 133 Fulton Street spoke regarding 208 and 212 Fulton Street. He stated that there are currently four children living in 212 and that CPS has been contacted. 208 Fulton is condemned, but is being vandalized by minors. Mr. Powell asked why 212 has yet to be condemned.

Danielle Ellis, 119 Fulton Street (upper) moved into her apartment on July first. She stated that while she loves her apartment, the neighborhood is too dangerous and disruptive. She added that an increase in police presence helped for some time, but the activity has begun again. She has a young son and she can't allow him to play outside due to the activity and discarded needles that are on their property.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Jennifer R. John City Clerk/Treasurer