

City of Norwich
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
Norwich City Court

March 18, 2019
7:00 PM

Present: Jack. Roque, Mark Parker, Elisabeth Caldwell, Scott Sutton

Absent: Kathleen Campbell, Harry Graves, Herb Ryan Jason Miller

Staff: Amy Donnison

Also Present. Mayor Christine Carnrike

I. Call to Order:

J. Roque called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes of October 15, 2018 were approved on a motion made by M. Parker. Seconded by E. Caldwell. Ayes all.

II. High Bridge Wind:

The Planning Commission received a letter from Environmental Design and Research in regard to the windmill proposal that is being planned for location in the Town of Guilford. This has been an ongoing plan and at this time they are at the stage where they are asking local municipal planning boards for feedback in identifying visually sensitive resources that is included on a table enclosed with request. Basically they are looking for any concerns that a windmill located in the Town of Guildford would have any visual impacts causing concern for the residents of the City of Norwich. Per the table attached to the request the nearest turbine would be located anywhere from 5.5 to 5.7 miles on average away and this is not driving miles but rather as the crow flies and it was determined by Environmental Design and Research that depending on vegetation it was possible that a part of a turbine could be visible to some residents within the City of Norwich.

Discussion ensued about the potential impacts if any having a partial view depending on vegetation to City of Norwich Citizens. The overall consensus was it would not impact residents in the City of Norwich in a negative manner. Members directed A. Donnison to write a letter indicating same and forward to Environmental Design and Research stating same.

III Sign Ordinance Review:

Copies of the City of Norwich current Sign Ordinance as well as Municipal Control of Signs packet from NYS was distributed. It has been discussed in the past the some of the ordinances

need to reviewed and possibly updated. The sign ordinance has come up as needing review specifically in the area of political signs in our current ordinance which may be in opposition to the NYS regulations on political signs. NYS does allow for regulations regarding placement and even duration but it must be consistent with other signage that does not require a permit based on content. All members agreed they needed time to review the current sign ordinance as well as the NYS regulations and be prepared to discuss potential changes at the next regular meeting.

IV Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by M. Parker at 8:05 pm. Seconded by E. Caldwell. Ayes all.