

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX PLAN COMMISSION

Held in the New Lenox Village Hall, 1 Veterans Parkway

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 7:00 p.m.

#16-02-A

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Village of New Lenox Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Mark Muehlnickel.

Chairman Muehlnickel led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following were present: Chairman Mark Muehlnickel, Commissioners Rob Moss, Terry Schultz and Kathy Hilton.

The following were absent: Commissioners Gary Berner, John Kuchler and Joan Byerley.

Mr. Muehlnickel announced there was a quorum present for this meeting.

Also present were Community Development Director Robin Ellis, Economic Development Coordinator Nancy Dye, Senior Planner Jeff Smith, Planner Jenni Neubauer and Senior Administrative Secretary Patricia Hansen.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF A REGULAR PLAN COMMISSION MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss and seconded by Commissioner Hilton to approve the January 19, 2016 minutes as presented. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

TEXT AMENDMENT – TOBACCO SHOPS, ALTERNATIVE NICOTINE SHOPS & VAPOR SHOPS
(Public Hearing)

Chairman Muehlnickel asked if proof of notice has been given. Senior Planner Smith replied affirmatively. Mr. Muehlnickel asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss and seconded by Commissioner Schultz to open the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Smith explained that this is a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. He said there has been a rise in the number of vapor shops as a result of the popularity of e-cigarettes, e-cigars, and

similar alternative nicotine products. Mr. Smith reported that at a recent Council-of-the Whole meeting, the Village Board discussed these items, and felt it was in the best interest of the Village not to include these uses in the commercial zoning districts. He said the Board felt that the I-1 Limited Industrial District was a more suitable location for tobacco shops as well as vapor shops and alternative nicotine shops. Mr. Smith said they asked Staff to move forward with a text amendment to remove tobacco shops from the C-2 Community Shopping District and create a permitted use in the I-1 Limited Industrial District for tobacco shops as well as alternative nicotine shops and vapor shops. He advised that this is the reason for tonight's public hearing. Mr. Smith noted that the current tobacco shops and vapor establishments in the Village will be allowed to continue to exist as legal non-conforming uses, but they cannot expand in size and/or relocate to another commercially-zoned district.

Mr. Smith said the Village Board also discussed other issues associated with electronic smoking devices and e-cigarettes, especially relating to minors, and how other sections of the Village Code dealing with smoke-free regulations are currently in the process of being amended.

Mr. Smith concluded by stating Staff is asking for a recommendation to amend the Zoning Ordinance to remove tobacco shops as a permitted use in the applicable commercial districts, and authorize tobacco shops, alternative nicotine shops and vapor shops as permitted uses in the I-1 Limited Industrial District.

Mr. Muehlnickel said he was happy to see the "Smoke Free New Lenox" amendment to Chapter 56 of the Zoning Ordinance. He asked if signage would be limited to what is allowed in the I-1 District, and Mr. Smith replied affirmatively.

Mr. Muehlnickel asked for a motion to close the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Hilton to close the public hearing. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Muehlnickel asked for a motion to recommend approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss and seconded by Commissioner Schultz to recommend to the Village Board approval of proposed text amendments to remove tobacco shops as a permitted use in the applicable commercial districts, and authorize tobacco shops, alternative nicotine shops and vapor shops as permitted uses in the I-1 Limited Industrial District.

Upon Roll Call, the vote was:

AYES: - Commissioners Moss, Schultz, Hilton, and Chairman Muehlnickel

NAYS: - None.

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE
Nancy Dye, Economic Development Coordinator

Economic Development Coordinator Nancy Dye was present to provide current information about economic development throughout the Village.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Smith advised there will be a meeting in two weeks, and there will be a public hearing. Please let Pat know if you will not be able to make the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Muehlnickel asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Commissioner Schultz and seconded by Commissioner Moss to adjourn. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Patricia A. Hansen
Senior Administrative Assistant