

**KENAI PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 26, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.
KENAI CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
210 FIDALGO AVE., KENAI, AK 99611
CHAIR JEFF TWAIT, PRESIDING**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Kenai Planning & Zoning Commission was held on July 26, 2023, in City Hall Council Chambers, Kenai, AK. Chair Twait called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Twait led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

There were present:

Jeff Twait, Chair
Gary Greenberg
John Coston
Gwen Woodard

Joe Halstead, Vice Chair
Jim Glendenning
Diane Fikes

A quorum was present.

Absent:

None

Also in attendance were:

James Baisden, City Council Liaison
Linda Mitchell, Planning Director
Meghan Thibodeau, Deputy City Clerk

3. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

MOTION:

Vice Chair Halstead **MOVED** to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Commissioner Woodard **SECONDED** the motion.

The items on the Consent Agenda were read into the record.

Chair Twait opened the floor for public comment on consent agenda items; there being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT was requested.
There being no objection; **SO ORDERED**.

All items listed with an asterisk () are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Commission and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission Member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda as part of the General Orders.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. *Regular Meeting of July 26, 2023

Approved by the consent agenda.

C. **SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

D. **UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

E. **CONSIDERATION OF PLATS**

1. **Resolution PZ2023-13** – Recommending Approval for Preliminary Plat – City Park 2023 Replat for a Parcel Merger of Tract A, City Park Subdivision No. 2 and Tract A, Park View Subdivision and the Right-of-Way Vacations of Char Circle as Dedicated on Park View Subdivision (Plat No. KN 79-156) and City Park Subdivision No. 2 (Plat No. KN 2007-149) and a Portion of S. Spruce Street as Dedication on Park View Subdivision (Plat No. KN 79-156) in the Suburban Residential (RS) and Urban Residential (RU) Zoning Districts.

MOTION:

Commissioner Greenberg **MOVED** to approve Resolution PZ2023-13. Vice Chair Halstead **SECONDED** the motion.

Planning Director Mitchell presented her staff report with information provided in the packet. Zoning and uses of surrounding lots were reviewed; staff recommended approval subject to the following condition:

1. Kenai City Council must consent to the right-of-way (ROW) vacations of Char Circle and a portion of S. Spruce Street are not needed for a public purpose and approve the ROW vacations as shown on the proposed preliminary plat.

Chair Twait opened the floor for public comment; there being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

MOTION TO AMEND:

Commissioner Greenberg **MOVED** to amend the recommendation so that S. Spruce Street not be vacated. Commissioner Fikes **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YEA: Fikes, Woodard, Glendening, Greenberg, Halstead, Twait, Coston

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

YEA: Coston, Greenberg, Halstead, Fikes, Woodard, Glendening, Twait

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. **Resolution PZ2023-14** – Recommending Approval for Preliminary Plat – Shoreline Heights 2023 Addition to Subdivide Tracts A, B, and C of Shoreline Heights 2014 Addition Phase 1 Subdivision into 17 Lots Located at 1540, 1541, and 1610 Pey Drive (Parcel IDs: 03914131, -32, and -33) in the Rural Residential (RR) Zoning District.

MOTION:

Commissioner Greenberg **MOVED** to approve Resolution PZ2023-14. Vice Chair Halstead. **SECONDED** the motion.

Planning Director Mitchell presented her staff report with information provided in the packet. Zoning and uses of surrounding lots were reviewed; staff recommended approval.

Chair Twait opened the floor for public comment on consent agenda items; there being no one wishing to be heard, the public comment period was closed.

Applicant Bryan Lowe responded to questions asked by the Commission.

VOTE:

YEA: Greenberg, Glendening, Halstead, Twait, Woodard, Coston, Fikes

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Resolution PZ2023-16** – Granting an Encroachment Permit for a Single-Family Residence to Encroach into the Required (North) Side Yard Setback on the Property Located at 1436 Pey Drive (Parcel ID: 03914146) in the Rural Residential (RR) Zoning District.

MOTION:

Commissioner Greenberg **MOVED** to approve Resolution PZ2023-16. Commissioner Coston **SECONDED** the motion.

Planning Director Mitchell presented her staff report with information provided in the packet explaining that the applicant is requesting an encroachment permit to allow the home to encroach approximately 16.8 inches into the required side yard setback along the north parcel line. Existing uses, land use designation, surrounding uses, and criteria for encroachment permits were reviewed; it was noted the application met the criteria and City staff recommends approval.

Chair Twait opened for public hearing. There being no one wishing to be heard, the public hearing was closed.

It was noted that this is a common occurrence in town. Clarification was provided that an encroachment up to 12 inches can be approved administratively, but because it exceeds that by 4.8 inches it needed to be brought to the commission for approval.

In response to questions from the Commission, applicant Bryson Lowe clarified that the driveway on Lot 22 was put in for that lot but has since been moved; this is his fourth development since 2016; and that the as-built has not been updated to reflect the driveway adjustment. Director Mitchell clarified that driveway changes will not be an issue for him to obtain building permits.

VOTE:

YEA: Halstead, Glendening, Greenberg, Coston, Fikes, Woodard, Twait

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Twait noted the 15-day appeal period.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Action/Approval** - Requesting an Excused Absence for the July 12, 2023 Regular Meeting – Glendening.

Approved by the consent agenda.

2. ***Action/Approval** - Transfer of Conditional Use Permit PZ2021-15 for Cabin Rentals on a property described as Lot 3, James H. Cowan Estates, located at 1050 Angler Drive within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district.

Approved by the consent agenda.

I. REPORTS

1. City Council – Vice Mayor Baisden reported that there had been no City Council meeting since the previous Planning & Zoning Commission meeting.
2. Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning – Commissioner Fikes reported on the actions of the July 17, 2023 Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission Meeting.
3. City Administration – Planning Director Mitchell reported on the following:
 - Will be reviewing applicants for open Planning & Zoning administrative assistant positions.
 - The first meeting in August is cancelled.
 - Went on code enforcement site visits with a police officer, will provide the commission with updates on some of these sites at future meetings.

J. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

K. NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION

1. Next Meeting: August 23, 2023

L. COMMISSION COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner Fikes noted she will be absent at the August 23, 2023 meeting.

Chair Twait noted the plat discussion provided good ideas for Council to consider.

M. PENDING ITEMS – None.

N. ADJOURNMENT

O. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – None.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting of July 26, 2023.



Meghan Thibodeau
Deputy City Clerk