

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting  
Of the Winthrop Planning Commission  
Monday, October 19, 2015**

A Regular meeting of the Winthrop Planning Commission was called to order at 5:02 pm on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in the City Council Chambers in City Hall for the purposes of conducting the business of the city.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Chairman Froehlich.

**ROLL CALL** Commission members Ryan Froehlich, Bob Rickheim, Peter Schuckert, and Duane Piere were present. Absent: Mark Santelman. City Staff present: Administrator Jenny Hazelton, City Clerk Barb Ahlbrecht, City Attorney Don Lannoye. Audience Members present: Charlie Banda, Fidencia Banda, Craig Carley

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

Commissioner Froehlich opened the public hearing at 5:05pm. Charlie Banda (16 yo) spoke on behalf of Fidencia Banda (mother) as to why they would like the variance request approved. They were unaware of the 24 inch off the property line requirement when they put the posts in. Once they were notified that they needed a permit they came in and filled out proper paper work to be compliant. The parents speak limited English, and they came from a farm where permits were not needed. They would like to keep the fence where it currently sits and not have to move it. The variance is for 22 inches on the west end of the fence and 16 inches on the east end of the fence. Craig Carley (neighboring property owner) spoke against granting the variance. He states that the rules say 24 inches so he would like the fence moved to comply with the ordinance. Carley also provided pictures of the fence in relation to the property line. He also contests the measurements and states the city measured wrong and it is 16 inches off the property line at both ends and even less in the middle.

Lannoye provided Planning Commission with a list of 5 standards for granting a variance and stated that the fence complies with all five with #4 being a little more subjective #4 states: Are there unique circumstances to the property not created by the landowner? There was some discussion by the commission that due to the closeness of the buildings in that area of town and a language barrier there are some unique circumstances in this situation. Concluded that they could answer yes to #4 and closed the hearing at 5:30pm

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion Rickheim, second Schuckert to approve the August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes. Passed voice vote.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Variance Request Abundio Banda-** Planning Commission reviewed the five requirements for granting a variance. Motion Piere, second Rickheim to approve the variance request specifying unique circumstances of the buildings being so close together in that neighborhood and the language barrier. Passed voice vote.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Lannoye spoke briefly on the 2 mile radius and commission agreed to not address it at this time. It will no longer be put on the agenda unless Chairman Froehlich requests it.

**VI. SCHEDULE NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**

The next regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 5 o'clock pm, in Hazelton's office

Motion Rickheim, second Schuckert to adjourn. Passed voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm.

---

Chairman Froehlich

ATTEST:

---

City Administrator