

MINUTES  
ALTOONA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION  
Tuesday, January 2, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bob Gutshall, Chairperson  
Dave Albright  
James Dixon  
Randy Isenberg  
Charles Meyers

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Jennifer Mikolajczk

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF PRESENT**

Lee Slusser, Director Community Development  
Nick Ardizzone, Property and Program Coordinator  
Nate Kissell – Director Department of Public Works  
Mark Criste – Public Works

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Ken Szala – P. Joseph Lehman Engineers – Our Lady of Lourdes  
Donna Royer, Guest  
Bill Kibler, Altoona Mirror

The Altoona City Planning Commission held its monthly meeting on January 2, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. in the Public Meeting Room, City Hall 1301 12th Street, Altoona. Bob Gutshall, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

1. **Approval of meeting minutes of December 1, 2017.**  
The meeting minutes of December 1, 2017 were approved as read by a motion made by James Dixon. Motion seconded by Randy Isenberg. Motion carried unanimously.
  
2. **Public Comment Period**  
None at this time

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ITEMS**

3. Our Lady of Lourdes –The Commission reviewed and considered for approval a land development application from the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown to reuse the former Our Lady of Lourdes School (and Lilly Pond Child Development

Center) at 2711 West Chestnut Avenue as an office building with newly landscaped parking. The approval of the City Zoning Hearing Board was gained for this project on July 28, 2016, as an expansion of nonconforming use. Mr. Slusser introduced Mr. Ken Szala, P. Joseph Lehman, Engineers who presented the plan to the commission. Mr. Slusser then reviewed the recommended Resolution, for instance Waiver No. 5 standard parking spaces would be 56 spaces for an office building, plan is slightly under the required spaces with only having 54 spaces. Mr. Slusser reviewed the waivers that have been requested. Waiver No. 4 is being amended to ask for excluding curbing around the interior islands. A motion was made by Randy Isenberg to accept the plan with the amendment changing the wording on Waiver No. 4 and providing details on Waiver No. 3, 4 and 5 and to approve Resolution No. 01-02-18-17-030 for Our Lady of Lourdes Land Development Plan. Charles Meyers seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

4. **Staff Level Reviews** – Staff has been working on the following subdivision/land development applications since the December 1, 2017 regular meeting.
  1. Lonesky, Michael L. & Carla M. – Subdivision/Land Development – 1213 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Under Review

#### **URBAN REDEVELOPMENT**

5. **Spot Blight Declaration** - None at this time.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

6. **Planning Reports**
  - a. Grantsmanship activities - First Public meeting will be held on February 7, 2018.
  - b. Shade Tree Commission – Plan and new ordinances being written
  - c. Zoning Hearing Board – January’s meeting will be a Special Exception for parking.
  - d. GAEDC – Shirley Shoes is applying for money to refurbish building to its original state.
  - e. Blair County Planning Commission – Still working on the County Comprehensive Plan. Looking into applying for a grant for PennDot to study the potential of what can be done with the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Expressway.
7. **Commissioners Forum** – No report

8. Questions from the Media and Public
9. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn.

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James Dixon, Acting Secretary