

AUGUST 14, 2017, PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES-filed as AUGUST 26

5 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: A. Christianson 2, C. Goin, A. Kaiser, D. Willingham.

Members absent: B. Groothusen, C. Huiras, C. Ostenso. Others present: A. Christianson 1, K. Gorseger, M. Hraban, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, A. Lobermeier, R. Moore, D. Ohlfs, D. Parker, M. Reynolds, B. Stoneberg, P. Uhren.

Call to Order:

Commission Chair called the meeting to order.

LMS Traffic:

Chairman Goin introduced Ladysmith School District Administrator Paul Uhren who, in turn, introduced Dan St.Pierre of Point of Beginnings and Todd Richter from Nexus Solutions, consulting firms assisting the District with site planning for the Middle School, which will house grades K-8 going forward. A site plan was presented showing E. 6th St. on the west of LMS running one way to the north between Worden and Miner Avenues and Miner Ave. running one way east between E. 6th and E. 8th Streets. Other facilities on the site were shown in new positions. These included employee parking, the elementary playground, and a parent drop off and pick up area. The public safety reasons for the one way streets and relocations of other facilities were all explained in detail.

Mr. Uhren attested that very few students walk or ride bikes to school these days. Most come by bus or private passenger vehicle. He also noted that if Weather Shield doesn't revise its shift changes to reduce traffic during the start and end of the school day, the school itself will alter its start and end times. It was also noted that the District will absorb all the costs associated with implementing this plan.

Several questions were asked or comments offered by those present. These included, but were not limited to, the following:

- It appears that a bottleneck could be created at E. 6th and Miner. In fact, one way streets reduce the number of possible traffic movements and so result in fewer conflicts that pedestrians and motorists alike.
- It was suggested that adding sidewalk on the west side of E. 8th St. might also be wise, although there is little room between the current playground fence and curb.
- This plan should have been put in place years ago.
- The bus pickup area will accommodate five buses.
- Maybe E. 8th St. should also be one way running south from Miner to Worden.
- Proposed improvements would be constructed next spring.

Police Chief Lobermeier noted his support for the revised traffic plan.

Most present indicated being pleased with the thought put into the plan.

Adjourn:

Upon motion by Christianson 2, which was seconded by Kaiser and carried by voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.