MUNSTER PLAN COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING Meeting Date: December 12, 2023

The announced meeting location was Munster Town Hall and could be accessed remotely via Zoom, a video conferencing application.

Call to Order: 7:30pm by Chairman Baker

Pledge of Allegiance

Members in Attendance:

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Steve Tulowitzki

Brian Specht

Sergio Mendoza, Planning Director

David Wickland, Attorney

Lee Ann Mellon

Dustin Anderson, Deputy Town Manager

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Bill Baker Rachel Branagan

Roland Raffin

Andy Koultourides arriving 7:41pm

Approval of Minutes:

a. October 10, 2023, Draft Minutes

Motion: Mr. Tulowitzki moved approve the October 10, 2023, minutes as presented.

Second: Ms. Branagan

Vote: Yes -5 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

b. November 14, 2023, Draft Minutes

Motion: Ms. Branagan moved to approve the November 14, 2023, minutes as presented.

Second: Mr. Tulowitzki

Vote: Yes -5 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

Preliminary Hearings:

a. PC23-028 The Town of Munster is requesting a zoning map amendment to rezone a portion of property at 706 Ridge Road from CD-3.R2 - Neighborhood - 60' Lot One Family Residence District to CD-4.A - General Urban - A Character District.

Mr. Mendoza said the Town is taking the lead on restoring zoning on a portion of property at 706 Ridge Road. He stated that the subject property had dual zoning (residential and commercial) until the Town updated the zoning map in 2019 and perhaps inadvertently rezoned the entire lot to residential. This zoning map update recently presented a problem for the property owner when he (Mr. Wardak) attempted to refinance the property and it was identified as legal non-conforming. Mr. Wardak contacted the town on this matter and questioned the legal non-conforming status because the property has an existing 5000 square feet of medical office building. Staff researched the property records and it showed that the existing medical office building was constructed in 1985 and the property was acquired in 2019 by Wadrak Investments LLC, under the control of Ahmad "Fred" Wardak.

Mr. Mendoza stated that in review of the previous dual zoning classification, approximately 315 FT south of Ridge Road was zoned commercial and the remaining 550 FT that extends to Briar Lane was zoned residential. He said the dual zoning recognized the medical office structure and use as conforming until the Town of Munster updated its Zoning Codes and Zoning Map. Mr. Wadrak would like to continue with the appraisal of his property and has requested that the town restore the previous zoning within a current commercial zone classification. The Town has agreed to assist with this interest. Mr. Raffin asked what the impact is to County's GIS tax zoning. In response, staff advised that zoning has no bearing on tax rates and those are determined by use through the Accessors Office.

Motion: Mr. Raffin moved set PC Docket No. 23-028 to a Public Hearing.

Second: Ms. Branagan

Vote: Yes -5 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

Public Hearings: None

Findings of Fact:

a. PC23-024 Attorney Scott Yahne for Floyds Concern, LLC received Preliminary Plat approval for a 2-lot subdivision, 3 FLOYDS SECOND CONSOLIDATION at 9750 Indiana Parkway.

Motion: Mr. Raffin moved to accept and approve the Findings of Fact for PC Docket No. 23-024.

Second: Ms. Branagan

Vote: Yes -5 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

b. PC23-026 Attorney Scott Yahne for Floyds Concern, LLC received Development Plan approval for a building addition and biergarten at 9750 Indiana Parkway.

Motion: Mr. Raffin moved to accept and approve the Findings of Fact for PC Docket No. 23-026.

Second: Ms. Branagan

Vote: Yes -5 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

Dr. Koultourides arrived at 7:41pm.

Other Items/ Additional Items for Discussion:

a. PC23-027 Performance Surety acceptance for Floyds Concern, LLC for an approved 2-Lot Subdivision: 3 FLOYDS SECOND CONSOLODATION at 9750 Indiana Parkway.

Motion: Ms. Branagan moved to send a favorable recommendation to the Town Council to

accept the Performance Surety for sidewalks for PC Docket No. 23-027.

Second: Mr. Tulowitzki

Vote: Yes -6 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries

Ms. Mellon, Mr. Tulowitzki, and Dr. Koultourides were thanked for their service to the Plan Commission and the Town of Munster for their roles in holding developers to a higher standard.

Next Meeting: Mr. Baker announced that the next Regular Business Meeting will be January 9, 2024.

Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. Koultourides moved to adjourn.

Second: Mr. Tulowitzki

Vote: Yes -6 No -0 Abstain -0. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7/49 pm

Chairman Bill Baker

Plan Commission

Executive Secretary Sergio Mendoza

Plan Commission

Date of Approval

Date of Approval