MINUTES
Planning Commission Workshop: September 17, 2020

Application: UDO20-0001: Draft updates to the UDO 18.50.030 for the keeping of animals

The Planning Commission workshop convened at 4:03 p.m. A motion to begin the workshop was made by Acting Chair Fry and seconded by Commissioner Allenbrand. The motion passed with a vote of 6-0. Commissioners Shirley Allenbrand, Taylor Breen, Chip Corcoran, Ryan Nelson and Marcia Youker were present. Chair Vakas and Commissioners Ryan Freeman and Barry Sutherland were absent.

Chief Planning and Development Officer Aimee Nassif provided a summary of the goals of the proposed update to the Unified Development Ordinance. The update is intended to provide a streamlined process for residents for the keeping of animals. Staff presented a recommendation to the City Council for this UDO update on September 1, 2020, after several months of research. City Council directed staff to continue this effort and to also look at the process for keeping of more than four (4) dogs.

Commissioner Nelson asked if roosters were prohibited. Ms. Nassif explained that the current requirement prohibiting roosters would remain in place.

Acting Chair Fry questioned whether a permit should be necessary for keeping more than four (4) dogs. Ms. Nassif explained that the required process to allow more than four dogs currently takes approximately twelve weeks. The proposed update would allow the request to be processed administratively under a new Special Animal Permit, which would reduce processing time and costs. Acting Chair Fry asked about eliminating the permit requirement altogether. Ms. Nassif stated staff was not recommending that at this time to ensure some regulation was in place. She added that other cities required a permit as a measure of regulation, but staff would perform additional research regarding this issue. Commissioner Allenbrand expressed her interest in the process and stated she believed the proposed update would be more efficient and streamlined.

Ms. Nassif informed the Commission that the proposed UDO update includes all animals, including bees, which would require a minor update to UDO Section 18.30.270. Ms. Nassif reviewed the update with the Commission. She further explained that the UDO currently allowed bees with a permit, however the process is unclear. Acting Chair Fry stated he believed bees are not actually animals but insects. Ms. Nassif stated Olathe, among other cities researched, currently includes bees with animal permits and sections of Code. Staff would perform additional research regarding the issue. After discussion,
Ms. Nassif informed the Commission that the UDO update is scheduled as a public hearing item at the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, October 12, 2020.

Ms. Nassif announced that the Planning Commission on September 28 included several public hearings and the meeting will be held in-person.

Acting Chair Fry made a motion to close the workshop, Commissioner Allenbrand seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

Workshop adjourned at 4:38 p.m.