Plan Commission Meeting minutes, August 3, 2023

Plan Commission Chair, Chris Ekern called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Plan Commission attending: John Rawson, Terry Wheeler, Chris Ekern, Brian Stenberg, Jill Anderson, Lesley Moen

Others attending: Attorney Radcliffe, Clerk/Treasurer Debi Fremstad, Ryan Rodenberg, Dan Rumsey, Lisa Antos, AMPI representatives-John Sigrist, Andy Halama, Wayne Jorgenson.

Motion by Jill Anderson to open the public hearing, 2ndby Lesley Moen. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Commission is meeting to discuss the application for a rezoning request for 226 W Center Street (Tax Parcel #206-00056-0000), from the R-1 Residential District to the I-1 Industrial District and for the property between 226 W Center Street and 202 N Gilbert Street (Tax Parcel #206-00055-0000), from the C-1 Parks and Open Space District to the I-1 Industrial District, both for the purpose of accommodating a parking lot and containment pad upgrade.

Public Comment: John Sigrist-AMPI showed plans for the containment pad that removes trucks from the street completely. This plan has been presented to the DNR. Wayne Jorgenson-AMPI stated that switching the zoning to Industrial will be needed for future improvements at the whey plant. Ryan Rodenberg-concerns regarding his stay-at-home wife and their 3 small children that are living and playing right next to the project. He suggested AMPI buy his property for a buffer with the project. Lisa Antos-concerns about the amount of gravel and the dust that would be created and spread throughout the neighborhood; could this area be blacktopped. Wayne Jorgenson replied that it is going to be gravel for now because the long-term plan is to have a closed load-out facility. Dan Rumsey-concerns with odor and spills. John Sigrist replied that the pad will funnel everything to a trench drain. Chris Ekern called for any more public comment three times.

The City of Blair's Zoning Administrator, Brea Grace had submitted a review of the application along with her recommendation that the request meets all conditions for approval of the rezoning.

No objections to the rezoning were expressed.

Motion by Terry Wheeler to close the public hearing, 2nd by Brian Stenberg. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to recommend to City Council the changing of AMPI zoning at parcel number 206-00055-0000 from P-1 Parks and Semi-Public District to I-1 Industrial and parcel number 206-00056-0000 from R-1 to I-1 Industrial based on the findings from the application and full review from SEH, also recommending temporary barriers be put up first for children in the area for safety purposes, 2nd by Lesley Moen. Discussion-none. Vote: Lesley Moen-yes, Jill Anderson-yes, Brian Stenberg-yes, Chris Ekern-yes, Terry Wheeler-yes, John Rawson-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to adjourn at 6:29 pm, 2nd by Terry Wheeler. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.