

**NORMAN PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

OCTOBER 11, 2012

The Planning Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers of the Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray Street, on the 11th day of October 2012. Notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building and online at <http://www.normanok.gov/content/boards-commissions> at least twenty-four hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Chairman Andy Sherrer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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Item No. 1, being:

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Gasaway
Cindy Gordon
Diana Hartley
Tom Knotts
Curtis McCarty
Roberta Pailes
Andy Sherrer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Boeck
Chris Lewis

A quorum was present.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Connors, Director, Planning &
Community Development
Jane Hudson, Principal Planner
Ken Danner, Subdivision Development
Manager
Roné Tromble, Recording Secretary
Leah Messner, Asst. City Attorney
Larry Knapp, GIS Analyst II
Terry Floyd, Development Coordinator
Scott Sturtz, City Engineer

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Item No. 12, being:

ORDINANCE NO. O-1213-9 – CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REQUESTS PARTIAL CLOSURE OF 150' OF THE ALLEY RUNNING EAST-WEST FROM PETERS AVENUE TO JONES AVENUE BETWEEN EUFAULA STREET AND SYMMES STREET.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD:

1. Location Map
2. Staff Report
3. Amended Application for Closure of Public Way by Ordinance
4. Protest Map (9/12/12)
5. Protest Letters

PRESENTATION BY STAFF:

1. Mr. Danner – The County owns property about mid-block on both sides of a 20' right-of-way, which is typically utilized for an alley. They are planning on re-doing their parking lot to the south and improving a parking lot on the north side. They are in need of control of those parking lots. They have asked for the closure so they can have control within the area that they own. The utilities within that right-of-way are still going to be able to be utilized. The City has a sewer line and it is our understanding that we can still maintain that sewer line if needed. Staff recommends approval of the closure.

2. Mr. Knotts asked if the improvements will make this a limited access parking lot. Mr. Danner indicated the applicant could answer that question.

PRESENTATION BY THE APPLICANT:

1. Carol Price Dillingham, 201 S. Jones, representing the applicant, the Board of County Commissioners for Cleveland County – We are seeking closure of 150 feet of the alley in the center of the block between Eufaula and Symmes. The County owns the parking lots and is trying to do two things. Our main focus is to try to move some of the employee parking over to these lots to create additional more abundant parking for the citizens in the existing lot across Jones by the Baptist Church. We are intending to just do closure by way of bollards – the same kinds of things you see all over town and on the University, where all of the first responders – fire trucks, police – have the keys to remove them in case they need it for emergency response. This does not inhibit either the City trash trucks from picking up the dumpsters on the east and the west ends, nor does it deprive any of the other private businesses in that block of their parking with the ingress off Peters and off Jones coming in from the two side ends. All we're seeking to do is gain control of that property that the County owns so that we can add about seven spaces for employee parking, increase the ability to have some better handicapped parking closer on the Eufaula end and hopefully to do some ingress and egress for handicapped folks through the old sally port from the jail and open up more abundant parking for the folks that need to get in and out of the courthouse. There are utility issues. OG&E has an easement through there and the City has a sewer that runs through there. We are not seeking vacation of the alley, just merely the closure by the way of the temporary bollards so that we get control of that without inhibiting anybody else's lawful use. I have Commissioner Rusty Sullivan here if you have any questions directly for the Commissioner. Be glad to answer any questions that you have.

2. Mr. Knotts – Will the parking lot be limited access? Ms. Dillingham – At this time it will be. We will identify the employee parking either by sticker or something like that. It's not going to be gated.

3. Ms. Pailes – Would you enter off both Eufaula and Symmes into the parking lot? Ms. Dillingham – I think the plan is for primary ingress off of Eufaula and then egress to Symmes. They will change the traffic pattern in the parking lot itself.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

There was no participation from the audience.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Jim Gasaway moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance No. O-1213-9 to City Council. Tom Knotts seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, a vote on the motion was taken with the following result:

YEAS

Jim Gasaway, Cindy Gordon, Diana Hartley, Tom Knotts,
Curtis McCarty, Roberta Pailes, Andy Sherrer

NAYES

None

ABSENT

Dave Boeck, Chris Lewis

Ms. Tromble announced that the motion, to recommend adoption of Ordinance No. O-1213-9 to City Council, passed by a vote of 7-0.

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