

**NORMAN PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

JULY 12, 2018

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 12th day of July, 2018. 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 Neil Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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Item No. 1, being:

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandy Bahan
Nouman Jan
Chris Lewis
Tom Knotts
Neil Robinson
Lark Zink
Erin Williford
Andy Sherrer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Boeck

A quorum was present.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Connors, Director, Planning &
Community Development
Jane Hudson, Principal Planner
Anais Starr, Historic Preservation Officer
Wayne Stenis, Planner II
Roné Tromble, Recording Secretary
David Riesland, Traffic Engineer
Ken Danner, Subdivision Development
Manager
Elisabeth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney
Bryce Holland, Multimedia Specialist

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Item No. 6, being:

O-1819-3 – ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH REQUESTS CLOSURE OF A 5' WIDE BY 134' LONG UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH ADDITION.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD:

1. Location Map
2. Staff Report
3. Petition to Close a Part of a Utility Easement with Site Plan

PRESENTATION BY STAFF:

1. Ken Danner reviewed the staff report, a copy of which is filed with the minutes. Since there are no utilities within this portion of the utility easement that are in conflict with the proposed building, staff is not opposed to closing a portion of the five-foot (5') utility easement.

PRESENTATION BY THE APPLICANT:

1. Harold Heiple, representing the applicant – If you have your page 6-1, it's got a location map in front of you. If you'd refer to it, I can make, I think, quick explanation. The portion designated "subject tract" in black bold hexagon, is the original plat of St. Thomas More Addition that was platted in 1977, as I recall. That dotted line is the west half of a 5' wide utility easement that was dedicated on that original plat as a utility easement, and only this half is requested to be closed, because the east half actually does contain utility lines, which come up Lincoln Street, then turn back west up to the boundary of the existing church building, then go back north to Stinson. So we only ask to close this 134' for this reason. We're in the process of building a new church in the undeveloped land right adjoining on the south of the existing church, and the plan is to connect those two structures by roof and walls and windows. They will be connected. You cannot build a structure on an easement, so that's why we have to ask that it be closed. That's in a nutshell what we're here for. I've been doing this for 55 years. I have a lot of easements and a lot of consents to encroachment. I've never had one that was cleaner, more unopposed, and more beneficial than this particular one. In light of the fact that this is my last appearance before the Planning Commission, I would hope it gets a unanimous vote. Thank you.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None

DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Chris Lewis moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance No. O-1819-3 to the City Council. Andy Sherrer seconded the motion.

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

YEAS	Sandy Bahan, Nouman Jan, Chris Lewis, Tom Knotts, Neil Robinson, Lark Zink, Erin Williford, Andy Sherrer
NAYES	None
MEMBERS ABSENT	Dave Boeck

Ms. Tromble announced that the motion, to recommend adoption of Ordinance No. O-1819-3 to the City Council, passed by a vote of 8-0.

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