



Village of Johnstown
Planning & Zoning Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 29, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Joe Ethier called to order the Village of Johnstown Planning & Zoning Meeting for Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 6:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Pat Schlagheck; present, Matt Lyons; present, Sharon Hendren; present, Joe Ethier; present, Mayor Benjamin Lee; present

IN ATTENDANCE – STAFF: Jim Lenner – Village Manager, Jack Liggett – Ast. Village Manager, Jim Blair – Zoning Inspector, Councilmembers Van Deest, Block, Main and Dutcher, Teresa Monroe – Clerk of Council

IN ATTENDANCE – PUBLIC: Nate Strum – GROW Licking County, Kerstin Carr – MORPC, Jennifer Noll - MORPC, Ryan Green, Troy Hendren, Dave Pontia, Sean Stanearth, Austin Thorpe

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)

MORPC representatives Kerstin Carr – Director of Planning and Sustainability and Jennifer Noll – Principal Planner were in attendance to present findings of the Insight 2050 report. MORPC is an association of sixty local governments within a fifteen county area; the presentation provided updates on some regional demographics and growth trends for development looking at historic trends as far back as 1980 and projecting out to what could potentially be experienced by 2050. The bulk of the fifteen counties population is concentrated within Franklin County and the six surrounding counties, if the area follows the trends experienced most recently, it could be on track to become a region of around three million residents by 2050; last year just over 43,000 residents moved into Central Ohio. Looking at all fifteen counties, total population is just under 2.4 million today; about 7.3 percent of that population is here in Licking County which is a little over 175,000. Growth trends for Johnstown show substantial growth in the past ten years, second only to Sunbury; a population of 5,000 or more would put a village on track to become a city and they anticipate this is something Johnstown is preparing for with the next census in 2020. Further demographics were reviewed highlighting population ages along with statistics on housing trends, job growth, mobility, mixed use development and land use. MORPC representatives opened for questions and comments and there was continued discussion between MORPC, the Board, staff and Nate Strum from GROW Licking County on jobs, land uses and development. The Board thanked MORPC for their presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Sean Stanearth – Resident; 345 Buena Vista
 - Commented on some points made in the MORPC presentation and said he was not sure everything in the presentation was relevant to Johnstown. Mayor Lee said this was a snapshot of the entire region and that the information can be used to help guide us.
2. Nate Strum – Director, GROW Licking County
 - On the density conversation, one thing he has heard from the private development community is that communities in Licking County and ex-urban areas are the “side yard” capitals of the world, they don’t do large scale mixed use dense development because everyone demands to have a lawn; when in reality, other marketplaces that we regularly compete against both in population

and industry, have already adjusted their land use planning to allow this. Should not be too reliant on single family homes; said a senior age sixty or over trends to prefer to be in a smaller, easier to move around in unit - but because we do not have housing geared toward seniors sixty and over in our communities, they are trapped in their single family home and that has backlogged housing stock, there is actually no great need for a lot of new housing stock, we need transitional homes to allow people to move in either as a young person or move out so they don't have to take care of a house long term.

- Johnstown is a community at the precipice of a decision; has some great industrial, commercial commerce based assets and is able to define what we want to be in twenty to thirty years.
- As zoning is reviewed, put emphasis on diversifying land use options to allow a better mix ensuring long term that when the population comes, any need for taxes or shifts in public services, that burden is relatively distributed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 15, 2019

Motion: Mayor Lee moved to approve; Ms. Hendren seconded and the vote was as follows:

Pat Schlagheck; Y
Matt Lyons; A
Sharon Hendren; Y
Joe Ethier; Y
Ben Lee; Y

Approved 4-0 with one abstention due to absence

APPLICATION # 111918177: Variance – Circle K

Mr. Lenner said as there is no representative present from Circle K he recommends this application remain tabled. Zoning Inspector Blair said they have complied with everything previously asked of them and are ready to begin the work; the application will remain tabled.

WORK SESSION – Planning and Zoning Code Review - Signs

Review began with Article XXXV Section 35.01; edits were completed through Section 35.02.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chairman Ethier moved to adjourn; Mr. Schlagheck seconded and all were in favor; motion passed 5-0.

Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted


Teresa Monroe, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS PRESENTED


Joe Ethier, Chairman