

**MORTON PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES – MARCH 26, 2018**

The Plan Commission met on Monday, March 26, 2018, at the Freedom Hall, at 7:00 P.M., Chairman Ferrill presiding. Present: Ferrill, Ritterbusch, Smock, Knepp, DeWeese, Keach, Zobrist and Fick. Absent: Westlake. Also in attendance: Planning and Zoning Officer Spangler and Attorney Pat McGrath.

Knepp made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting seconded by Fick, followed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Hearing(s):**

1) **An Ordinance Making Amendments Regarding Setback Variances To Chapter 10 Of Title 10 Of The Morton Municipal Code.** ZEO Spangler and Attorney McGrath explained the Villages need for the amendments, noting the Village Right of Way is becoming crowded with the addition of more utilities. There was discussion amongst the board with concern over this affecting the downtown business district. A motion was made by Ritterbusch to table this subject to the next meeting, so that the board can give thought to limiting it to residential or not include mixed use areas. This motion was seconded by Keach, followed by a vote to table.

DeWeese	Yes	Ritterbusch	Yes
Zobrist	Yes	Ferrill	Yes
Smock	Yes	Knepp	Yes
Fick	Yes	Keach	Yes

Approved

2) **An Ordinance Making Amendments Regarding Murals to Section 10-9-8 of Chapter 9 of Title 10 of the Morton Municipal Code.** Speaking first from the public, Leigh Ann Brown, the Executive Director of The Morton Chamber of Commerce and the CEO of The Economic Council. Mrs. Brown spoke about the positive economic impacts that murals can have on a community. Mrs. Brown also spoke about the progress of the downtown district area. Also speaking together from the public was Doug and Eileen Leunig. Mr. and Mrs. Leunig explained the benefits of having public art like murals in a community. Scott Warner, the owner of Old School Arts spoke from the public as well. Mr. Warner explained that he is getting requests for quotes to do murals. Mr. Warner is currently doing murals for other communities. Mr. Warner stated he is not sure what to tell people when they call and ask him about doing murals in Morton. At this time, much discussion took place. Chairman Ferrill committed to acquiring more information from other communities on how they addressed the same issues that the board has about murals. The motion was made by Zobrist to table the existing ordinance until the next meeting in order to acquire additional information about murals. A second was made by Fick, followed with a vote to table the current Ordinance until the next meeting

DeWeese	Yes	Ritterbusch	Yes
Zobrist	Yes	Ferrill	Yes
Smock	Yes	Knepp	Yes
Fick	Yes	Keach	Yes

Approved

**Other Business: None**

**Roger Spangler: Nothing to report**

With no further business, Keach made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Zobrist, followed by a unanimous voice vote. The next regular meeting of the Plan Commission will be held on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.