

SUSANVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023 – 5:30 PM

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Westbrook

Roll Call of Councilmembers Present: Rod DeBoer, Tony Ardito, Wayne Jambois, and Melanie Westbrook. Absent: James Merchant

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Rod DeBoer; seconded by Tony Ardito to approve agenda as submitted.

Motion Carried: 4-0

Voting For: DeBoer, Ardito, Jambois, and Westbrook

Voting Against: None

2. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Jim McCarthy commented on the work being done to clean up properties and that they are proving a point. He was pleased with the work done in South Weatherlow.

He concluded that nothing is moving forward on the Knights Inn Motel.

3. CONSENT ITEMS: NONE

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

4.A Conduct Public Hearing on AV2023-007 and Consider Resolution No. 23-1153 approving an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Order and ordering the abatement and removal of two inoperative vehicles from 1418 Fourth Street.

Public hearing opened at 5:32 p.m.

Mr. Loflin explained the item pertains to two inoperative vehicles at 1418 Fourth St. They are in view of the public and are owned by property owner Eric Cline.

Chair Westbrook recuses herself from the hearing.

Mr. Loflin there is a 1987 Chevrolet pick-up and a 2008 Jeep Wrangler. The Chevrolet's vehicle registration expired on March 31, 2015.

Chair Westbrook leaves the room.

Mr. Loflin continued that the vehicles appear in the same state and are still on the property and are still expired as of March 21, 2015. The Jeep Wrangler has not moved with accumulation of limbs and branches. It is also expired and suspended and therefore in an inoperative state.

Commissioner Jambois takes over the public hearing as there is no chair or vice chair present.

He asked how long the vehicles have been there.

Mr. Loflin responded he's noticed them since he became the Code Enforcement Officer in March 2021. Mr. Mumper added he noticed the vehicle in 2020.

Commissioner Jambois asked about any correspondence with the neighbors.

Mr. Loflin responded there hasn't been any contact with the owner.

Moved by Tony Ardito, seconded by Rod DeBoer to approve Resolution 23-1153.

Motion: 3-0

Voting For: Ardito, DeBoer, and Jambois

Voting Against: None

Chair Westbrook returns to the dais.

- 4.B Conduct Public Hearing on AV2023-008 and Consider Resolution No. 23-1154 approving an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Order and ordering the abatement and removal of an abandoned vehicle from 710 Main Street.

Public Hearing opened at 5:40 p.m.

Mr. Loflin explained the vehicle is on a vacant lot on Main St., which is two parcels. One is owned by the Datema Family Trust and the other is owned by Tim Nobles. The vehicle is located on the parcel of the Datema Family Trust. The vehicle is owned by Kenneth Marino, registration was suspended on Aug. 19, 2021, and expired as of April 2022, therefore it is a violation of the Susanville Municipal Code.

The vehicle has not moved for one month.

The Commission needs to consider whether the landowner is responsible for the abatement unless they provide sufficient evidence to relieve themselves from the responsibility. The order is 10 days to abate so we need to determine responsibility.

Mr. Loflin explained the approving resolution puts the responsibility on the property-owner, the disapproving puts the responsibility on the registered owner. Staff's recommendation is to approve the approving resolution.

Quincy McCourt, City Mayor and public member, asked if the 10-day deadline had already started or if it begins that night.

Mr. Loflin responded it starts after tonight.

Mr. McCarthy urged the Commission to approve the order.

Commissioner Jambois asked what the property owner needs to do to demonstrate they have no knowledge of how the vehicle got there.

Mr. Loflin responded it would be the decision of this hearing body, it's not a staff level determination. The owner would have to provide information that they are not responsible.

Public hearing closed at 5:44 p.m.

Moved by Wayne Jambois; seconded by Tony Ardito to approve Resolution 23-1154.

Motion Carried: 4-0

Voting For: Jambois, Ardito, DeBoer and Westbrook

Voting Against: None

- 4.C Conduct Public Hearing on AV2023-009 and Consider Resolution No. 23-1155 approving an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Order and ordering the abatement and removal of an abandoned vehicle from 55 South Pine Street

Public Hearing opened at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Loflin explained the matter pertains to a 1999 Chrysler Sebring at 55 S. Pine St. The vehicle has been abandoned for quite some time. The property is owned by Kevin Bailey, of Montana, and the Sebring is owned by Carmen Stra, of Susanville.

The vehicle registration was suspended on Oct. 30, 2014, and expired on June 8, 2015, therefore it is in violation of the Susanville Municipal Code.

This body needs to determine if it will be the property owner or the vehicle owner's responsibility, as the order should be a 10-day abatement period.

Chair Westbrook asked if appears anyone is living in the house.

Mr. Loflin responded he did a weed abatement at this property last year and it does not appear anyone is there.

Mr. McCarthy urged the Commission to approve the resolution.

The Commission held discussion regarding who would be responsible, the property owner or vehicle owner.

Mr. Loflin stated there is a possibility action can be taken against both parties and he can issue an administrative citation against the last registered owner, but it will be the \$100 penalty if they were to guarantee any sort of response from that person.

Public hearing closed at 5:52 p.m.

Moved by Tony Ardito, seconded by Rod DeBoer to approve Resolution 23-1155

Motion Carried: 4-0

Voting For: Ardito, DeBoer, Jambois and Westbrook

Voting Against: None

- 4.D Conduct Public Hearing on AV2023-010 and Consider Resolution No. 23-1156 approving an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Order and ordering the abatement and removal of an abandoned vehicle from 1006 South Railroad Avenue.

Public hearing opened at Mr. Loflin explained the item pertains to a Nissan Altima with Utah plates at 1006 S. Railroad. The property is owned by Sabrina Greiten, and the vehicle is owned by Lisa Baxter, of Utah. The registration was suspended as of Jan. 31, 2020, in Utah, and it has never been registered in California.

Due to a pending sale, record a notice of pendency to alert the possible buyer there may potentially be a special assessment or lien if the resolution is approved it places the responsibility onto the property owner.

Chair Westbrook asked if the property sells do we have to start over with the new owners. But if he does the notice of pendency that records this order, then at least alerts people to take the action needed to clear it.

Mr. McCarthy voiced his support for the resolution.

Commissioner Jambois pointed out the wrong property owner was listed on the resolution. Staff will correct.

Public hearing closed at 5:57 p.m.

Moved by Wayne Jambois, seconded by Rod DeBoer to approve Resolution 23-1156 as amended.

Motion Carried: 4-0

Voting For: Jambois, DeBoer, Ardito and Westbrook

Voting Against: None

5. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

7. COUNTY REFERRALS: NONE

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Rod DeBoer, seconded by Tony Ardito to adjourn at 5:58 p.m. Motion Carried: 4-0

Voting For: DeBoer, Ardito, Jambois and Westbrook

Voting Against: None

Signed, Chair Melanie Westbrook

Respectfully submitted by,

Ruth McElrath, Building Permit Technician

Heidi Whitlock, City Clerk

Approved On: July 25, 2023