

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF ANDERSON §
CITY OF PALESTINE §

The Real Estate Committee convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., in the City Hall Conference Room, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present: Chair Brenda Walker; Committee Members Phil Jenkins, Larry Weber, Edwin Link, and Ann Connor.

Others present: Public Works Director Tim Perry, Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons, Communications Officer Nate Smith, and City Secretary Teresa Herrera.

CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

With a quorum present, Chair Brenda Walker called the Regular Meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Weber made a motion, seconded by Committee Member Connor, to approve minutes of December 5, 2017, as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Discussion and possible action regarding substandard housing.

Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons provided an update on substandard housing. He informed that funds for substandard housing were limited and most substandard houses were vacant. No action taken.

Discussion and possible action regarding cemetery lots.

Committee Member Jenkins led the discussion. He asked if lots that were sold more than 100 years ago and remained unused could be resold. Committee did not take action.

Discussion and possible action on timeline for action items regarding the following:

a. Palestine Civic Center

Committee discussed the potential uses for the Civic Center. First, it needs to be marketed more than it has up until now. Second, auditorium needs to be reduced, and third, building needs to be renovated.

b. Palestine Mall

No update on Palestine Mall.

c. City owned residential lots

Communications Officer Nate Smith provided information regarding Infill Housing Program analysis. Affordable housing is a need in the City of Palestine and one of the many ways the city can combat the problem is by creating an Infill Housing Program. The program would provide lots within the city limits to builders and developers as an incentive to build affordable homes. The program is already being used in communities around East Texas.

Committee Member Weber made a motion, seconded by Committee Member Link, to continue pursuing the Infill Housing Program for Palestine. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Items for next meeting.

Discussion items for next agenda: 1) Palestine Mall and 2) City owned residential lots- Infill Housing Program. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at noon.

ADJOURN

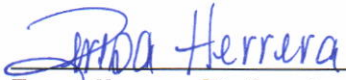
With no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018.

Brenda Walker

Brenda Walker, Chair

ATTEST:



Teresa Herrera, City Secretary