

**WENATCHEE PLANNING COMMISSION
SCHEDULED MEETING
August 15, 2018
WENATCHEE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
129 S. Chelan Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

II. ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

A. Approval of the minutes from the last regular meeting on July 18, 2018

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments for any matters not included on the agenda.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Planning Commission applicant interview
- B. Discussion: Cryptocurrency mining – Andy Wendell, Chelan County PUD

VI. OTHER

A. None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Mayor's office at (509) 888-6204 (TTY 711). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1.)

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Scott Griffith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members in attendance: Ace Bollinger, Joe Gamboni, and Susan Albert. Absent were Commissioners John Brown and Richard Erickson.

City Planning staff was represented by: Glen DeVries, Community Development Director; Stephen Neuenschwander, Planning Manager; Matt Parsons, Associate Planner; and Kim Schooley, Administrative Assistant. Also present were Gary Owen, City Engineer, and Rob Jammerman, Director of Public Works.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

A. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on June 20, 2018.

Commissioner Ace Bollinger moved to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2018 regular meeting. Commissioner Joe Gamboni seconded the motion. The motion carried.

It was noted by Commissioner Albert that a date change needed to be made on the header portion of the minutes as the draft copy showed the meeting date of May 16 rather than June 20.

Regarding the agenda, staff asked to switch items B and C to accommodate evening schedules.

Commissioners were in agreement.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments for any matters not included on the agenda.

There was no public comment.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Workshop on the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Gary Owen, City Engineer presented the staff report.

Commissioners asked questions of and provided input to staff.

C. Workshop on Critical Areas regulation exemptions

Glen DeVries, Community Development Director, and Stephen Neuenschwander, Planning Manager, presented the staff report.

Devries advised that the City Council approved the Critical Areas ordinance on June 14th as recommended by the Planning Commission at their May regular meeting. However, Chelan County PUD had submitted a request for exemptions from the ordinance just days before Council's June 14th meeting. Despite their approval of the ordinance, Council did ask that the Planning Commission review the letters sent by the PUD to determine if additional changes needed to be considered.

After staff's review of the PUD's concerns, Commissioners were in agreement and advised staff that they did not see a need to make additional changes to the regulations at this time.

Staff advised that they would advise Council of their decision.

B. Workshop to present a status update on the cryptocurrency moratorium

Stephen Neuenschwander, Planning Manager, and Matt Parsons, Associate Planner, presented staff report.

Commissioners asked questions of and provided input to staff.

Staff asked Commissioners for additional questions that they would like to have answered about cryptocurrency.

Questions of Commissioners:

- Health issues and fire hazards
- What is the definition
- Can the PUD just say "No" to providing power to interested parties
- What is the threshold for residential and commercial
- It would be nice to hear both sides of the issues – PUD and a bitcoin miner

VI. OTHER

None

Staff advised that on next month's agenda there would be an interview of a Planning Commission applicant, as well as a continued conversation on crypto-currency if the PUD had representatives available for questions.

Chair Griffith asked if there were any roundtable discussion items.

- Blackrock Development on Skyline Drive – staff provided an update

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Planning Commission, Chair Scott Griffith adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF WENATCHEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Kim Schooley, Administrative Assistant

DRAFT



**City of
Wenatchee**

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Wenatchee Planning Commission

FROM: Planning Division Staff

DATE: August 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Cryptocurrency Mining Interim Control Discussion at August 15, 2018 PC Meeting

As a follow-up to the discussion that occurred at the July 2018 Planning Commission Meeting regarding the Cryptocurrency Mining Interim Control that is currently in place, Andy Wendell will be available to answer questions on behalf of the Chelan County Public Utility District. The purpose of this discussion is to develop a better understanding of the issue, how it affects the community, and to inform later discussion about proposed policy changes.

Mr. Wendell was provided with the following summary of the questions that were posed to staff at the July meeting regarding Cryptocurrency Mining:

- What is the PUD's opinion on cryptocurrency mining in residential areas/neighborhoods?
- Is there a threshold or minimum amount of cryptocurrency mining that can safely occur in a residence without significant upgrades to service or power consumption?
- What is the PUD's legal obligation to provide power? Can the PUD simply deny service to cryptocurrency miners?
- What are the fees/rates applied to cryptocurrency mining?
- What is the public benefit vs the power consumed? Is there sufficient power reserved for residential and commercial/industrial growth?

Please come with any additional question you may have for Mr. Wendell at the meeting.