

TOWN OF JEROME

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MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JEROME TOWN COUNCIL HELD VIA WEB CONFERENCE ON ZOOM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, JEROME TOWN HALL THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020 AT 6:00 PM

ITEM #1:	CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL								
5:00 (2:28)	Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order.								
. ,	Mayor Alex Barber called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm .								
	Town Clerk to call and record the roll.								
	Town Manager/Clerk Candace Gallagher called the roll. Present were Mayor Barber, Vice Mayor Sage								
	Harvey, and Councilmembers Jane Moore, Dr. Jack Dillenberg, and Mandy Worth. Zoning Administrator Jo								
	Knight was also in attendance.								
ITEM #2:	RESOLUTION #603, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JEROME,								
5:01 (3:02)	YAVAF	PAI COUNTY, A	RIZONA, D	ECLARING A	ND ADOPTIN	IG THE RESU	LTS OF THE PR	RIMARY ELECT	101
0.01 (0.02)		N AUGUST 4, 2							
	Counci	l may approve f	Resolution #	603, declaring	g and adoptin	g the results	of the primary	election held	on
	August	4, 2020. This Res	olution will b	oe provided o	nce election r	esults have b	een certified.		
	Мауо	r Barber read th	e resolution	by title, then	shared the res	sults of the ele	ection and liste	ed each cand	idat
	vote i	fally. She congra	atulated all	the councilme	embers.				
		Mayor Harvey e							
		d that nationally	•	•		percent, and	d in Arizona it v	vas a 12 perce	ent
	turnout. The vice mayor thanked the constituents for voting.								
	Mayor Barber announced that the Home Rule proposition also passed, with 171 yes votes and 28 nay note								
	Motion to Adopt the Results of the Primary Election Held on August 4, 2020 (Resolution #603)								
		COUNCILMEMBER BARBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE X	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	_
		DILLENBERG			X				
									_
		HARVEY		Х	X				4
		MOORE	X	X	Х				
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ITEM #4: 5:06 (8:08)

RESOLUTION #604, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JEROME, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, INITIATING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS REGARDING STAIR SETBACKS AND APPEALS TO COUNCIL

Council may approve Resolution #604, initiating amendments to the Jerome Zoning Ordinance regarding setbacks for stairs and the process for appeals to Council.

Mayor Barber introduced the item.

Ms. Worth recused herself from the agenda item.

Ms. Gallagher moved Ms. Worth into the Zoom "waiting room." She then explained that the Council was simply initiating an amendment process regarding stair setbacks and the appeals process, and no decision regarding the details of either needed to be made at this meeting.

Zoning Administrator John Knight explained that an appeal on the project at Center Avenue and Fourth Street brought to light that there were issues with the Town Code regarding the appeal process. He said he had spoken to the appellant about these issues. He said the goal was to research other town codes and more thoroughly address access stairs and the appeals process. He then gave examples of criteria that could be considered for someone to have standing to appeal. Mr. Knight also pointed out inconsistencies in the period to appeal in the Town Code. He posed further questions to consider in amending the code.

Vice Mayor Harvey expressed that she believes these issues need to be addressed.

Ms. Moore referred to page 7 of the zoning ordinance and read aloud Section 102, the purpose of the ordinance. She said she felt this was very important and believes that past decisions are not necessarily appropriate today, and that historic preservation and fire safety are crucial. Ms. Moore said the boards need to avoid arbitrary and capricious decisions that do not follow the ordinance. She also mentioned that she did not think Ms. Worth needed to recuse herself. Ms. Moore said that it is necessary to clarify the ordinance for the boards and council but mostly for the public, so that its purpose is clear. She would rather see "setbacks and yard requirements" in the wording of the resolution instead of "setbacks for stairs." She mentioned the nonconforming houses and buildings in town and the access stairs discussed at the last Planning & Zoning meeting, and that they are there for a variety of reasons that should be considered. Ms. Moore said she would like to get assistance with the zoning issues from an outside organization, as Jerome used to in the past, and she would like a discussion among the board members and the use of the zoning ordinance when they are making decisions. She said the Town needs to be clear on why certain things are required, and exceptions can continue to go to the Board of Adjustment. She said she wants fairness across the board, and that the fire department and building department need to be involved when it comes to issues obstructing setbacks.

Ms. Gallagher recommended a revision to the wording of the resolution based on Ms. Moore's earlier suggestion, which reminded Ms. Moore she had a comment about the appeals process.

Ms. Moore explained that the appeal is sometimes <u>because</u> of the process, which could affect everyone in town. She feels residents should be able to appeal the process, no matter their proximity to the project.

Mayor Barber said she agreed with Ms. Gallagher's revision and asked her to read it aloud once again. She also asked Mr. Knight to refer to Verde Valley and county codes rather than those from elsewhere, and asked if he planned to go to the boards with this information to work on it and subsequently present it to the Council with answers on how to fine-tune the code and ordinances. Mr. Knight answered yes. Mayor Barber said the town cares about safety and historic preservation and needs clear rules. She read from Section 502, "General Provisions," of the zoning ordinance, the last sentence under A. Application, as an example of how unclear the language is. The mayor said the point was to make the ordinance easier to read, have the boards use the ordinance, and to get work groups to help the town.

Mr. Knight mentioned that neighborhood meetings are required and that joint meetings have also been discussed.

Ms. Moore said it would be helpful to get legal advice on the language of the ordinance. She shared an example from the ordinance about the setback being "open to the sky and unobstructed."

Motion to Approve Resolution #604 with changes as stated by the Town Manager

COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER			X			
DILLENBERG		Х	X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE			X			
WORTH						Х

ITEM #5:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 5:27 p.m.

Menen to the journal of the journal						
COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER	Х		X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY		X	X			
MOORE			X			
WORTH			Y			

APPROVE:	ATTEST:

Christina "Alex" Barber, Mayor	Candace B. Gallagher, CMC, Town Manager/Clerk
Date:	