

CITY OF AUBURN PLANNING BOARD  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016 6:30 PM, MEMORIAL CITY HALL

Present: Sam Giangreco, Tim Baroody Anne McCarthy, Andy Tehan, Crystal Cosentino

Absent: Theresa Walsh

Staff: Stephen Selvek, Senior Planner; Greg Gilfus, Auburn Police Department; Brian Hicks, Code Enforcement Officer; Stacy DeForrest, Corporation Counsel

Agenda Items: Zoning Amendment for 54 Lafayette Place; Public Hearing for the Community Development Block Grant 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan

Items Approved: Zoning Amendment for 54 Lafayette Place

Applications Denied: None

Applications Tabled: None

Chair calls the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited. Roll is called.

**Agenda Item 1: Approval of October 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes.**

Chair asks for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2016 meeting. So moved by Andy Tehan, seconded by Crystal Cosentino. Sam Giangreco abstains. All in favor. No members opposed. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item 2: Zoning amendment to rezone existing real property at 54 LaFayette Place to R-2: Multi-family Residential. Applicant: City of Auburn.**

Stephen Selvek- Last meeting was the public hearing for 54 LaFayette Place. At this time I am requesting the Board to move forward with the environmental review and the recommendation to City Council. City Council will ultimately decide on rezoning the parcel. This parcel is industrial zoned and is looking to be rezoned to R2. The parcels to the west are R2. The property owner to the west of the parcel is interested in purchasing a portion of this parcel, merging it with their residential parcel, and constructing a residential garage. The remainder of the parcel will be vacant and in the City's ownership.

Stephen Selvek reviews parts II and III of the NYS Environmental Assessment Form for the Board. In part II of the SEQRA form, questions 1-11 staff answered that the zone change will have no impact. Part III reads: Goal 1 in the Revitalizing Neighborhoods section of the City Comprehensive Plan includes the desire to protect neighborhood character. The proposed action to re-zone the subject parcel at 54 LaFayette Place supports this goal. Subsequent to the rezoning, a portion of the parcel will be sold to the adjacent residential property and a residential garage is proposed to be constructed. The use of the property is permitted in the R2 zone. The remaining portion of the property is vacant land and there is not intent to alter that condition at this time.

Staff recommendation is to accept the negative declaration resolution and approve the recommend zoning change resolution to City Council.

Chair asks Board members for questions and comments.

Motion to accept the SEQRA Negative Declaration Resolution for the rezoning of 54 LaFayette Place made by Anne McCarthy; seconded by Crystal Cosentino. All in Favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Motion to accept the Zoning Amendment Resolution to City Council for the rezoning of 54 LaFayette Place made by Andy Tehan; seconded by Tim Baroody. All in Favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

**Agenda Item 3: PUBLIC HEARING: City of Auburn Community Development Block Grant 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan. Presenters: Tiffany Beebee, Senior Planner and Renee Jensen, Senior Planner**

Tiffany Beebee, Senior Planner presented the Community Development Block Grant program to Planning Board members with a PowerPoint presentation. Tiffany states that the City is looking for community feedback on projects and priorities eligible for HUD funding.

Chair opens the Public Hearing.

Arlene Ryan, 36 Orchard Street- My neighborhood has had much money and attention over the years and things looking much better. I also travel a lot on Columbus Street and the sidewalks and roads look terrific. Lafayette Place is a dead end street and has a lot of traffic but the street is very narrow and difficult to get through. I am also glad to hear that the park and playground improvements are continuing at St Francis Park.

Jessica Soule, 19 Wall Street and director of Cayuga Health Network- Encourages the use of this money to go to anything that encourages physical activity including parks and sidewalks, especially those that connect-people walking to our offices cross loop road and the arterial, which are dangerous, so anything to help make those connections safer would be appreciated. Another cornerstone of our agency is encouraging quality and safe housing. It is especially important here in Auburn because of lead poisoning so anything to increase the quality and safety of our housing is important.

Joe Leogrande, 161 East Genesee Street- I am on the Human Rights Commission and our budget was cut less than half and the chair Fred Richardson would tell us horror stories of tenant/landlord issues and some employment issues. I am here tonight to talk about discrimination in Auburn for employment and housing. We would like to get funding to develop something about issues within the city. We need to educate people in Auburn and are asking you if CDBG can, out of its human services, support the human rights commission or give it to Diverse Auburn (newly formed) or the NAACP to help save the race issues in Auburn. We would like to educate the kids or the youth to include race development issues including workshops.

Crystal Cosentino, 121 Herman Ave and Chief Operating Officer at Homsite- There are just a couple of main things that I would like to mention from an agency prospective:

- We appreciate the CDBG funding that the City has granted Homsite for the Home Repair program. This year Homsite became a Community Based Development Organization, which will help grow a RLF program for affordable financing for homeowners.
- A Rental Rehab program (NYS funds) was just announced and we hope to work collaboratively with Cayuga Health Network and the City in addressing lead issues in the

City. We are also excited to work with the City on the Zombie and vacant property grant that the City just received.

- We seek more money for the first time home buyer program. This is one way to grow our City and increase our City's vitality.

Chair closes the Public Hearing.

**Other Items:**

The Chair announces a number of NYCOM Trainings that will take place on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The webinars will be hosted in the third floor training room at City Hall from 11:30-12:30. These can also be watched online. They are \$20 each and the City will reimburse for these trainings.

On Wednesday, November 16th from 7pm-9pm County Planning is providing training for solar power generation. It will be held Cayuga/ Onondaga BOCES.

No other items brought before the Board.

The date of the next Planning Board meeting is Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Andy Tehan and seconded by Tim Baroody. All in Favor.

Respectively submitted by Renee Jensen