

Committee Members:

- Grant Russel, at large – Committee Chair
- Bud Haas, Ward 1
- Dennis Hellmann, Ward 2
- Tom Shindledecker, at-large
- Jim Slough, Ward 4

Staff:

- Brian Thomas, Service Director/ Acting City Engineer
- Matt Cordonnier, HRPC Director
- Kyle Inbody, Zoning Code Enforcement Officer
- Judy Schrimshaw, HRPC

Meeting Start Time: 12:00**Meeting End Time:** 12:29 PM**Guests:**

Councilman Randy Greeno

Kim Hamilton (applicant) – 1017 Hurd Avenue

Deb Mericle – 423 Elm St.

Agenda:

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at noon.

Roll Call

- Dennis Hellmann & Bud Haas had previously informed the Committee Chair that they would be absent from this meeting.

New Items

1. 1017 Hurd Avenue Alley Vacation
 - Per Matt C
 - i. CPC – recommended to deny the request
 - Per Brian Thomas
 - i. Concern is continued access to the alley that could be denied
 - ii. Concern is the next owner of properties on Elm who might want to use the alley but wouldn't have access or future owners who would have ownership of half the former alley and could restrict access
 - iii. Concern is that for the applicant to access their garage off the alley, they would have to travel over private property – one-half of the vacated alley
 - iv. Other concerns as expressed by the applicant: people walking through the alley; speeding is less of a practical concern
 - Grant Russel pointed out an alley vacation on the east side of South Main St around 2014-15. The vacation affected those further down the alley as these residents lost trash service because the vacation created a right-angle turn that their trash hauler could not navigate
 - Tom Shindledecker acknowledged the concern w/ drug activity at a house on Elm Street that was discussed at the City Planning Commission and the foot traffic that results because of it. However, Tom doesn't think that alley vacation is the solution to that problem.

- Kim Hamilton & Deb Mericle
 - i. There is drug activity at on house on Elm St. causing Ms. Mericle to erect a fence to block the activity and transit through her property.
 - ii. Ms. Hamilton has put up security cameras, motion sensitive lights, contacted the police numerous times but nothing stops the activity. She has counted 30x visitors per day people coming and going. They have had run-ins w/ Ms. Hamilton's husband.
 - iii. They understand that closing alley won't entirely remedy the situation, but they are wanting to try anything that might work.
- Motion to recommend denial of vacation: Russel
 - i. motion fails for lack of a second
- Jim Slough says that it sounds like the issue is entirely drug related and most of the people who use the alley are there for that reason
 - i. Ms. Hamilton & Ms. Mericle say that when people are walking, they don't use the alley if they (the applicants) are outside.
 - ii. A general discussion of the egress paths of individuals using the alley followed.
 - iii. Applicant indicated that she would block access to the alley at the eastern part of the vacation – where it intersects with a north/south alley.
 - iv. Applicant stated that there is no trash service on the section of the alley where the vacation is being requested.
- Tom Shindledecker asked if it would help if the alley was designated one-way?
 - i. Per Brian Thomas – in order to make the alley one-way it cannot be vacated.
- Motion to recommend denial of vacation: Russel / S
 - i. Motion approved – 3-0

Tabled Items

1. Midland Rezone (tabled)

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:29 PM

Grant C. Russel

Grant Russel, Planning & Zoning Committee Chair

COMMITTEE REPORT

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Kim Hamilton to vacate the alley between Lot 132 in Byals A P O L and Lots 1901-1904 in the Schwartz & Firmans Addition from Hurd Avenue east to the north-south alley.

We recommend denial of the request. (Motion: Russel / Second: Slough)

PUBLIC HEARING:

Grant C. Russel

Aye Nay _____
Grant Russel, Chairman

ABSENT

Aye Nay _____
Bud Haas

ABSENT

Aye Nay _____
Dennis Hellmann

Aye Nay _____
Tom Shindledecker

Aye Nay _____
James Slough

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION: _____

DATED: July 9, 2020