The Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission convened on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at Noon in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building for the Monthly Agenda Review Meeting. In attendance were Planning Commissioners Jack Sharp, Rebecca Longmire, Chair of MPC, Art Clancy, III, Jeff Roth, Laura Cole, Herb Anders, Scott Smith, Mac Goodwin, Elizabeth Eason, Michael Kane, Janice Tocher, and Rev. Charles Lomax, Jr. Also in attendance were MPC Executive Director, Gerald Green, and various MPC staff members.

Mr. Green called the meeting to order at 12:13 o’clock p.m. and advised the Commissioners of his recent tour of North East Knox County with Commissioner Longmire and expressed his desire to have an opportunity to meet individually with each of the Commissioners in their home communities in an effort to learn more about their concerns. He will schedule such meetings in the future. Mr. Green also advised that he will intends to invest Commissioners into long term planning projects at an earlier date such that their input can be secured for the benefit of Staff prior to the production of initial drafts.

Jeff Archer of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Item 65 of the August Agenda regarding the report to City Council on alternate financial services. At the conclusion of the report, Mr. Archer responded to questions from Commissioners about grandfathering of existing service providers, and how the proposed spacing regulation will be measured. There followed a general discussion among Commissioners about the relative value of clustering alternative financial services as opposed to providing spacing between those providers.

Michael Brusseau of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 41 and the procedure employed when the application comes directly from the Knox County Commission. The Staff report was followed by a general discussion among the Commissioners regarding the procedure.

Mr. Brusseau then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 45.

Mike Reynolds of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 48 and answered questions regarding that application.

Commissioner Lomax left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Reynolds then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 50, indicating that he anticipates a request for postponement. At this point Arthur Seymour, a local attorney, rose to advise of his representation of the applicant and to confirm, that he will be submitting a request for postponement prior to Thursday’s meeting.
Mr. Brusseau then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 51 and the revisions reflected in the Blue Sheets provided to the Commissioners, and answered a smattering of questions from Commissioners.

Tom Brechko of MPC Staff at this point interjected that Agenda Item 19, which is recommended for postponement, is related to Agenda Items 50 and 51, previously discussed by Messers Reynolds and Brusseau.

Mr. Brusseau then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 52.

Mr. Brechko then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 56. Commissioner Eason left the meeting at this time, as Mr. Brechko’s explanation continued. It is not known if her exit was precipitated by Mr. Brechko’s ongoing explanation. At the conclusion of the explanation, there followed a general discussion among Commissioners about cell towers and the criteria that can be employed in making judgments regarding those applications and the potential need to revisit to the existing cell tower regulations.

Mr. Brechko then noted that Agenda Item 57, although not on the list of items for review at the meeting, will have opposition at Thursday’s meeting.

Dan Kelly of MPC Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 60. At the conclusion Mr. Kelly also explained the status of Agenda Items 24 and 32. Commissioner Kane left the meeting at this time. Discussion continued among the Commissioners regarding Agenda Item 24.

Commissioner Tocher then inquired about the tabling of Agenda Item 5 and was advised by Mr. Kelly that the matter will be recommended for postponement rather than tabling.

There being no further business to come before the Agenda Review Meeting, the meeting was duly adjourned.

This 11th day of August, 2015.

Recording Secretary