

**PLANNING COMMISSION /
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
JULY 15, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Cowman, Maurer, McLean, Parks

Commissioners Absent: Dees, Hayes

Others Present: Mitch Gabbert - City of Paola

Item 1: Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2: Consideration of minutes from the April 15, 2025 meeting.

Commissioner Cowman called the meeting to order. The next order of business was the consideration and approval of the minutes from the April 15, 2025 meeting.

Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the April 15, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maurer with all commissioners voting in favor.

Item 3: Discussion on Subdivision Regulations in the LDO.

Zoning Administrator Mitch Gabbert discussed future plans to update the Land Development Ordinance revised in 2010 to align with recent Comprehensive Plan. There was some discussion about Article 10 with the consensus being that no significant changes were needed. Gabbert provided an overview of land available for development.

Item 4. Community / Economic Development Director Report.

Zoning Administrator Gabbert presented the following information:

1. Permits year to date = 306
2. General
 - a. The new ice cream shop on the square has opened.
 - b. Aquatic Ecosystem Consultants is getting closer to completion.
 - c. Casey's tanks and canopies are currently being removed.
 - d. Lot merger for 705 E Shawnee.
 - e. Lot merger for 609 W Shawnee.
 - f. Apartments planned for 11 S Pearl St.

- g. Fire Chief Andy Martin has retired and Paola's new Fire Chief is Bruce Hartig.
 - h. Several new houses are under construction.
 - i. Public WiFi is available at the square and Wallace Park.
 - j. Bur Oak 3 infrastructure permit issued.
3. City Council
- a. Demolition of the dangerous barn at 610 E Kaskaskia has been awarded to Gowing's Construction.
 - b. Brief discussion about 110 E Peoria renovation.
4. August Planning Commission
- a. CUP for refrigerated storage at the old Sonic Location.
 - a. CUP for auto dealership in the downtown area.

There was some discussion about code enforcement cases on S. Silver Street and City process on addressing storm damage to trees.

Item 5: Adjournment

Commissioner Maurer made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McLean, with all commissioners voting in favor.