

**MINUTES  
PEQUOT LAKES PLANNING COMMISSION/  
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JANUARY 28, 2020**

PRESENT: Andrew Birch, Laura Larson, Nathan Norton, Tom Paulbeck, and Wesley Wilson. ABSENT: Mark Hallan and Christopher Savino

CITY PLANNER: Absent

ZONING SPECIALIST: Dawn Bittner

The meeting was called to order by Chair Birch at 6:00 PM.

**Downtown Plan Update – Neighborhood Evaluation:**

Chair Birch noted most of the streets intersect with Patriot Avenue and that interaction should be evaluated. The consensus for Patriot Avenue was:

- The section of Patriot Avenue from the stop light south to Derksen Road needs to be safe for truck traffic as it is the primary truck route; Rasmussen Road is not designed for truck traffic.
- Patriot Avenue does not need to be 4 lanes wide in all areas.
- Center turn lanes are necessary at SuperValu and the school.
- The section of Patriot Avenue north of the stop light could be narrowed with a boulevard and parallel parking. Truck/trailer parking necessary.
- Trailside Park should be connected to the Cole Building tying both sides of town together.
- What do we want the town to look like in 20 years? Improvements could be phased – curb, gutter, sidewalks, etc. which could increase tax base. Incremental improvements over time will suddenly have a major impact.

Stop light:

- People may be troubled with the aesthetic look of the light, but the function out ways aesthetics.
- A roundabout conference in Kansas City noted the places you do not want a roundabout located is near a senior center, near a school, near a park, and public trails or any public event area.
- The light helps with pedestrian crossings.
- Without the light, traffic could cause stress on other intersections.
- It keeps traffic running smoothly.

- If traffic makes travel difficult, it could have a negative effect on the community.
- The light may be necessary in the future. Consensus of the Planning Commission was to keep the light.

The Planning Commission began with 1<sup>st</sup> Street and discussed each street segment through Main Street. It was noted that West Butler Street was not included; Staff will include information for West Butler Street. Tonight's discussion points will be included for continued discussion at the next regular Planning Commission meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Bittner  
Zoning Specialist