

Regular meeting of the City of Downs Planning Commission was held November 25, 2013, 5:30 p.m. at city hall. Members present: Bill Cushing, Doug Brush, Jennifer Cooper, Randy Koops, Don Heiland, Linda Miller, Tim Parker. Also in attendance: Mayor Jennifer Brush, Bruce Berkley, John Cary, David Hardy, Duane Miller, Kathy Miller, Ray DeBey, John Shellito, Josh Shellito, Kevin Shellito, Gene Begnoche, Evan Joy, Brian Sharp.

Chairman Bill Cushing called the meeting to order.

Don moved, seconded by Jennifer, to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2013 meeting as submitted. Carried.

Bill thanked everyone for coming. Bill reminded those attending that the annexation planning process is in the very early stages, but would like to get an idea of the proposed land to be annexed. He provided a map with a proposed boundary as a starting point for discussion.

Mayor Jennifer Brush discussed the governing body's reasons for considering annexation.

There was discussion and public comment. Some of those, located in the proposed area, expressed concern with codes, rules, and zoning. At present, Osborne County has no building/zoning codes. Some were concerned with the cost and restrictions. John asked if they would be able to operate their businesses without the city. John Riggs had recommended that the council add any property that benefits from being close to the city. Doug noted the benefit of zoning, zoning protects the property owner. A letter of comment was received, asking that the annexation include all and not just some of those businesses adjacent to the city limits.

Ray suggested looking at the long term affects by checking with other communities to see if it was beneficial.

There was lengthy discussion and comment time.

Further discussion led the members to include any improved property adjacent to the city limits.

Bill moved, seconded by Jennifer, to submit to John Riggs an annexation proposal to include the improved real estate adjacent to the City of Downs. Carried.

Jennifer moved, seconded by Randy, to adjourn the meeting. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

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Vickie Oviatt – DPC Secretary