

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N. Main Street
April 6, 2023

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Logan called the April 6, 2023 Mitchell Historical Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:17 P.M. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N Main Street.

2. Roll Call

Quorum is met, simple majority vote required for all items.

Present: Bradley, Buechler, Clark, Enders, Jirsa (telephoncially), Logan, Schwalm.

Absent: Genzlinger, Pooley, Swenson.

Staff Present: Jenniges, Schroeder.

3. Declaration Of Conflicts Of Interests

None.

4. Approve Agenda

Motion by Clark, seconded by Enders to approve the proposed agenda. Roll call vote: Bradley – aye, Buechler – aye, Clark – aye, Enders – aye, Genzlinger – absent, Jirsa – aye, Logan – aye, Pooley – absent, Schwalm – aye, Swenson – absent. 7 aye, 0 nay, 3 absent; motion carried.

5. Approve Previous Minutes: January 26, 2023

Motion by Jirsa, seconded by Buechler to approve the proposed minutes of the January 26, 2023 Mitchell Historic Preservation Commission meeting. Roll call vote: Bradley – aye, Buechler – aye, Clark – aye, Enders – aye, Genzlinger – absent, Jirsa – aye, Logan – aye, Pooley – absent, Schwalm – aye, Swenson – absent. 7 aye, 0 nay, 3 absent; motion carried.

6. Review and Comment: Razing 116 & 118 E 1st Ave

Jenniges explained the City of Mitchell received an application for a demo permit for this property back in December of 2022. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was notified since it is located within the historic district and they requested an abbreviated 11.1 case report due to the potential to encroach upon, damage or destroy historic property.

Jenniges explained the buildings to the east were razed and during that process the applicants believe some damage was done to their building and it is now structurally compromised. The buildings to the west have gone through the process and are ready to be razed as well. Jenniges showed the photos that the applicant provided in the 11.1 case review, one of which shows a hole in the roof letting water into the building and creating water damage and mold. The applicant had a representative there to answer questions.

Logan went over what the board's charge was and also noted the board could request a HABS survey as well, which had been done for a couple of other buildings prior to being razed.

Jirsa noted his concerns about public safety with the building, since the building on the east has already been razed and the building on the west is about to be razed. He believes clay tiles and bricks will fall. The building is in tough shape and no one will restore the building because it is extremely expensive to do so. He doesn't believe there needs to be a HABS survey done on this building.

Schwam questioned if any of the brick or other materials will be saved for restoration of other buildings. Jirsa noted that other project materials have been saved when possible but that is

very costly and the bricks on this building will crumble due to the water issues it has.

Schroeder noted that Schoenfelder Construction will pile brick separately from the rest of the building materials so they can crush the brick and use them for roads so it does not end up in the landfill.

Cal Muntifer of Schoenfelder Construction said they will let others go through the building prior to the demo if they want, but there really isn't anything in the building to salvage. It is not cost effective for them to try and salvage any of the materials besides the brick.

Motion by Jirsa, seconded by Beuchler to agree with the 11.1 case report to demo the existing building due to financial impact and safety to the public. Roll call vote: Bradley – aye, Buechler – aye, Clark – aye, Enders – aye, Genzlinger – absent, Jirsa – aye, Logan – aye, Pooley – absent, Schwalm – aye, Swenson – absent. 7 aye, 0 nay, 3 absent; motion carried.

7. Other Business:

None.

8. Public Input:

None.

9. Adjourn

Chairperson Logan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Bradley, seconded by Beuchler, to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 P.M. Roll call vote: Bradley – aye, Buechler – aye, Clark – aye, Enders – aye, Genzlinger – absent, Jirsa – aye, Logan – aye, Pooley – absent, Schwalm – aye, Swenson – absent. 7 aye, 0 nay, 3 absent; motion carried.



Jeff Logan
Historical Preservation Commission Chairperson