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WORK SESSION

May 14, 2013

After the Urban Renewal Authority Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Urban Agriculture - Proposed Land Use and City Code Changes. (staff: Laurie Kadrich, Lindsay Ex; 1 hour discussion)

City Plan contains several principle and policy statements aimed at promoting local food production and encouraging urban agriculture. Several City departments are coordinating with numerous public, private, and academic entities to implement these principles and policies. However, the Land Use Code is in direct conflict with City Plan as it only allows urban agriculture in four of the twenty-five zone districts as a primary use. While City Council amended the Land Use and City Code in 2008 to allow six chickens hens per lot (Ordinance No. 072, 2008), hundreds of citizens expressed the desire to practice urban agriculture in more zones in the City, allow farmers markets in more areas, and allow for a wider range of animals to be raised.

Based on City Plan and this feedback, staff proposes Land Use and City Code changes to implement City Plan. The proposed Land Use Code changes include: (1) the establishment of an urban agriculture licensing system that will allow urban agriculture in all zone districts; and (2) allowing farmers markets in more zone districts in the City.

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Proposed City Code changes include: (1) scaling the number of chickens allowed based on lot size; (2) allowing ducks to be raised; (3) allowing two dwarf or pygmy goats per household for milk production; and (4) updating the beekeeping Ordinance to reflect current best practices.

3. Revising the Master Covenant of the Affordable Housing Units in the Provincetowne Condominium Development. (staff: Joe Frank, Beth Rosen; 1 hour discussion)

A series of issues have arisen regarding the Master Covenant the City placed on certain housing units in the Provincetowne Condominium development to guarantee that the units would remain affordable for low-income individuals and families. The purpose of this work session is to review the history, issues and results of the implementation of the Master Covenant, and seek the City Council's direction as to which options the City should pursue to preserve affordability, if any.

4. Other Business.
5. Adjournment.