

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

7:00 p.m.

A quorum being present at City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah, the meeting of the Centerville City Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

LaRae Patterson, Vice Chair

Shawn Hoth

Matt Larsen

Mason Kjar, Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tyler Moss

Layne Jenkins

Amanda Jorgensen

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Eggett, Community Development Director

Lisa Romney, City Attorney

Sydney DeWees, Planner

VISITORS

Interested citizens

LEGISLATIVE THOUGHT/PRAYER Commissioner Patterson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING – ZONING CODE TEXT AMENDMENTS – BODY ART STUDIO/TATTOO ESTABLISHMENT – CZC 12.12.040 (DEFINITIONS) AND 12.36.040 (TABLE OF USES FOR COMMERCIAL USES) – LEGISLATIVE DECISION

Community Development Director Mike Eggett presented proposed amendments to zoning codes concerning the categorization of body art studios and tattoo establishments. The petitioner, Nicole Hutchins, requested amendments to include body art, such as cosmetic permanent makeup and tattooing for medical reconstruction purposes. The proposal suggested redefining existing terms and altering codes to permit body art studios in commercial zones.

Staff outlined key concerns, including ambiguity in definitions and administrative challenges, noting that existing ordinances differentiate between permanent cosmetics and tattoos, complicating the proposed new definitions. It was also mentioned that zoning ordinances currently prohibit tattoo establishments in any zone, mandating clarity in regulatory terms if changes were to proceed.

The Planning Commission discussed these points, emphasizing current code limitations and the regulatory landscape including legal precedents on tattooing as free speech.

The applicant, Nicole Hutchins, advocated for the legalization of tattooing in Centerville, emphasizing its importance as a form of self-expression and cultural significance. She highlighted the economic benefits of an open tattoo culture, including job creation and community inclusivity, and mentioned the therapeutic role of tattoos in healing journeys, particularly through medical tattooing. Mrs. Hutchins urged local officials to amend regulations to reflect evolving values,

1 fostering acceptance and supporting local entrepreneurs while enhancing the city's cultural
2 landscape.

3
4 Chair Kjar opened a public hearing for this item.

5
6 Carrie Montoya, Centerville resident, shared that the Utah Health Department
7 differentiates between tiny, fine-line tattoos and traditional body art, with the latter requiring a
8 three-month apprenticeship for licensing. She also mentioned the increase in body art permits in
9 Salt Lake County and the LDS church's relaxed stance on tattoos since 2022.

10
11 Karen and Dale George, Centerville residents, have been the owners of NuTrends in
12 Centerville for 40 years. They seek to expand their services to include permanent makeup and
13 tattooing. They emphasize their commitment to beautifying the community and note that they
14 have already received a permit from the Davis County Health Department for these new services.
15 The owners hope for support from the commission to move forward with the changes.

16
17 Adrienne Lawrence, Centerville resident, asked some clarifying questions, including if the
18 wording of the application is the major issue, if the demographic an issue, and if professionals
19 can have tattoos, why can't the city have a facility to provide tattoos. She emphasized the need
20 for community support for entrepreneurs and the importance of economic growth.

21
22 Cody Hutchins, Centerville resident, reflected on the city's significant growth since his
23 childhood and expresses support for the inclusion of tattooing as a form of self-expression. He
24 noted that tattoos are no longer just associated with outlaws and highlighted that people of all
25 ages, including seniors, are embracing them. He advocated for changing local laws to
26 accommodate this evolving perception of tattooing in the community.

27
28 Brooke Cake, Centerville resident, shared how her tattoo represented her reasons to stay
29 alive during her struggles with depression. She highlighted how the tattoo has opened
30 conversations about mental health and suicide awareness, helping to reduce stigma. Brooke
31 expressed gratitude for the tattoo's positive impact on her life and the importance of recognizing
32 the benefits of such expressions.

33
34 Al Harrison, Centerville resident, shared his views on tattooing, emphasizing its personal
35 significance as a way to tell stories about family and faith. He recounted the emotional pain of
36 being shunned by family and friends for his tattoos and urged the audience to consider the impact
37 of their judgments on young people. He stressed that modern tattoos represent personal
38 expression and identity, rather than negative stereotypes from the past.

39
40 Chair Kjar closed the public hearing.

41
42 The Planning Commission answered questions from the public comment, and further
43 discussed the points raised by the applicant and staff. The Commission debated whether to
44 forward the proposal to City Council with approval, denial, or request further refinement of
45 definitions to better align with city zoning policies.

46
47 Commissioner Kjar **moved** to deny the application on the basis that the current language
48 as proposed by the applicant does not have a tailored enough approach for the City to be able to
49 understand the ramifications of the language. He stated that it is such a broad solution that the
50 proposed language does not meet either the general plan or the administrative needs as
51 expressed in the staff report. Commissioner Hoth seconded the motion which passed by a
52 unanimous vote (4-0).

53
54 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

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2 Mr. Eggett announced upcoming public hearing items and their potential impacts on future
3 meetings. Topics included area rezonings, conditional uses, and updates to the general plan. He
4 also mentioned ongoing work on walls and fences frameworks influenced by public input and
5 Planning Commission decisions.

6
7 **MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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9 Minutes of the October 9, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting were reviewed.
10 Commissioner Larsen **moved** to approve the minutes as written. Chair Kjar seconded the motion,
11 which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

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13 **ADJOURNMENT**

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15 At 8:53 p.m., Commissioner Patterson **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Chair Kjar
16 seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

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18
19 Jennifer Robison
20 Jennifer Robison, City Recorder
21

12/4/2024 | 10:40 AM MST

Date Approved

