

**Public Hearing – Zoning Text Amendment – To amend the fencing regulations to allow administrative approval of encroachment agreements.**

Becker stated that the current code the way it is written requires any easement encroachment agreement be approved by the City Council. This change would allow for those agreements to be approved administratively by staff. The current process is time consuming for staff as well as the resident and delays the issuing of the permit. The fee for this agreement is \$150.00, making a fence permit \$225.00. In the future, we might be able to reduce the fee with the reduced staff time.

Dunn is wondering why this was added in 2011 and how often this happens. Becker stated that it has happened quite a bit since she has been here. The new developments all have the utility easements located on the properties.

Larson asked what happens if there is conflicting rules between the City and the HOA. Becker stated that this change doesn't in effect change any of the rules other than who is allowed to make the approval. Wensman stated that the City does not regulate HOA covenants between property owners.

Public hearing opened at 7:20 pm

No one spoke and there was no written comments received.

Public hearing closed at 7:21 pm

M/S/: Fields/Dunn, would like to add a sentence at the end of the suggested motion to read that the fee be reduced to \$50 when the city Council considers the fee schedule.

M/S/P: Williams/Dunn, would like to make an amendment to the motion that the fee not be specified, but only that it be reduced. **Vote: 6-0, motion carried unanimously.**

Original motion as amended to add "that the fee be reduced when the City Council considers the fee schedule", **Vote: 6-0, motion carried unanimously.**

M/S/P: Dodson/Griffin, move to recommend approval of an ordinance to amend Chapter 154: Zoning Code; Section 205: Fencing Regulation; Subp. (D) (6) to allow approval of a fence easement encroachment agreement by the Planning Director or his/her designee after review and approval and furthermore recommends that the fee be reduced when the City Council considers the fee schedule, **Vote: 6-0, motion carried unanimously.**