

ZONING REQUEST PROCESS

Zoning requests include zoning of properties in conjunction with annexation of the property into the municipal limits, rezoning of properties already within the municipal limits, amendments to existing Planned Development District zoning ordinances, and amendments to the text or maps contained in the Zoning Code (Chapter 156 of the Mount Pleasant Code of Ordinances). Zoning requests do not include Comprehensive Plan amendments, Sketch Plans, Preliminary Plats, or Impact Assessments.

For zoning requests, the Planning Commission serves in an advisory role. The Commission is a nine-member citizen commission, with members appointed by the Mayor and Town Council. The Commission holds the required public hearing on a zoning request and makes a recommendation to the Planning & Development Committee of Town Council. The Planning & Development Committee makes recommendations to Town Council, which is the deciding body for such matters.

- The deadline for application submittal is 28 days prior to the Planning Commission meeting
 date. Each zoning request requires a completed <u>Planning Commission Application</u> and payment
 of applicable fees, which go towards advertising and staff costs. If the zoning request involves a
 new or amended PD, Planned Development District, a <u>Preliminary Staff Review</u> submittal is
 required prior to the Planning Commission submittal.
- The Planning Commission holds public hearings on the next to last Wednesday of each month
 at 5pm in Council Chambers at the Municipal Complex. After hearing comments from
 Department of Planning & Development staff, the applicant, and the public, the Commission
 discusses the request and votes on a recommendation for approval, approval with conditions
 (only with certain types of requests), or denial.
- Each zoning request is then referred to the Planning & Development Committee of Council,
 which meets each month on the Monday or Tuesday prior to the regular monthly Town Council
 meeting. The date, time, and location of Committee of Council meetings are published online
 the week prior to the meeting. After comments and discussion, the Committee votes to
 recommend approval, approval with conditions (only with certain types of requests), or denial.
- The request is considered at the following week's Town Council meeting, which is held the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm in Council Chambers. After presentation of the request by Department of Planning & Development staff, Council holds discussion and votes to approve, approve with conditions (only with certain types of requests), or deny first reading of the ordinance associated with the request.
 - If first reading of the ordinance is approved, it must have a second reading by Council.
 Second reading typically occurs at the next month's regular Town Council meeting;
 however, since State law requires only a minimum of six days between readings, Town
 Council may, at its discretion, hold a special meeting.
 - If first reading is not approved, the request does not move forward and cannot be resubmitted within one year without Council approval to do so.
- Although the Planning & Development Committee and Town Council do not hold the required public hearing on zoning requests, their meetings are open to the public.
- The <u>Annual Meeting Schedule</u> (which includes application submittal deadlines) is available online.