



Mt. Pleasant City Commission & Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission Meeting Highlights: July, August, September 2023

The City Commission heard several presentations on energy efficiency and the environment. The Central Michigan District Health Department recommends that residents visit www.airnow.gov for air quality information. However, Mt. Pleasant has no air monitoring station; the airnow.gov report will be based on data from Saginaw.

The City Commission adopted the International Property Maintenance Code which set standards for minimum building conditions. These standards apply to all city properties, whether owner-occupied or rented. City code enforcement officials will notify property owners of violations and provide an opportunity to bring properties into compliance with code.

The city staff and City Commission have long prioritized affordable housing. Affordable 1,2-, & 3-bedroom rental apartments, about 50 units, have been proposed at 410 Mill St. and 200 Walnut St. An application for tax credits will be made in December 2023 for a Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreement. A PILOT allows the property owner to pay a defined percentage of shelter rent (or total owner revenue) instead of the local property tax rate. Commissioners approved a PILOT rate of 4% and a municipal service fee of 4% for a total payment level of 8%.

With support of the Planning Commission, the City Planner is drafting a change to the zoning ordinance that would eliminate Special Use Permits for duplexes, accessory dwelling units, short-term rentals (Airbnb), and Bed and Breakfast dwellings, among others. Instead of a Special Use Permit, approval of these uses would be determined solely by city staff. Duplexes, accessory dwelling units, short-term rentals, and Bed and Breakfasts can be situated in all residential neighborhoods.

A Special Use Permit requires that notices be sent to property owners and residents within 300 ft. of a property for which a Special Use is considered. A Special Use Permit requires a Public Hearing. City officials make periodic investigations of buildings and lots for which Special Use Permits have been approved.