TO: Planning Commission Members  
Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
FROM: Shawn Wetterlin, Building/Zoning Official  
DATE: March 20, 2019  
RE: Meeting Minutes from March 19, 2019

The Planning Commission met at 5:15 p.m., on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The following members were present: Jerry Steffes, Linda Larson, Dave Hanifi, Anna Stoecklein, Patti Dockendorff, and Richard Wieser. Also present was City Attorney Skip Wieser, and Building/Zoning Official Shawn Wetterlin. Planning Commission member Jason Ludwigson and City Council member Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner were not in attendance.

1. The Planning Commission held a public hearing at the La Crescent City Hall on Tuesday, March 19th at 5:15 o’clock P.M. to consider changes to the City’s Sign Ordinance.

Chairman Steffes called the public hearing to order and stated the case to be heard.

City Attorney Skip Wieser gave a staff report. City Attorney Wieser reviewed 3 proposed changes and electronic messaging signs in the Central Business District.

James Fuchsel, resident and with La Crosse Sign spoke.

The public hearing closed as no additional member of the public wished to be heard on the matter.

The Planning Commission had discussion on the proposed changes.

Motion by Dockendorff, seconded by Stoecklein to recommend to the City Council approval of the Sign Ordinance text amendment (attached) changes in red and regulation of electronic messaging signs in Central Business District. Also attached is the proposed Event Center/Hotel sign

Upon a roll call vote, taken and tallied by the Building Official, all present members voted in favor.

Dockendorff – Yes  
Stoecklein – Yes  
Hanifi – Yes  
Larson – Yes  
Wieser - Abstain  
Steffes – Yes

Motion by Wieser, seconded by Dockendorff to adjourn the meeting. All in attendance voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
ORDINANCE NO. 531

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 497 ADOPTED ON AUGUST 10, 2015, AND TITLED “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT REGULATING SIGNS IN THE CITY”

The City Council of La Crescent ordains as follows:

SECTION I: Section IV(G)(a) and Section VI(A)(6) and B(1) and (6) of Ordinance No. 497, adopted on August 10, 2015, and titled “An Ordinance of the City of La Crescent Regulating Signs in the City” are amended to read as follows:

SECTION IV. GENERAL SIGN STANDARDS

G. Electronic Message Centers - All EMC signs shall comply with the following special requirements:
   a. Such signs may be used only to advertise activities and events conducted on the premises or activities and events off premises if the off premises activities and events being advertised are taking place on a contiguous lot. The signs may also be used to present time, date, temperature, or information concerning civic events.

SECTION VI. ALLOWED SIGNS – Permit Required

A. Central Business District
   6. Off-Premises Signs – Off premise or billboard signs shall only be allowed on a modified “cap and replace” basis as defined in VI(B)(6).

B. Commercial and Industrial Districts
   1. Freestanding Signs – One on-premises freestanding sign per building is permitted provided said sign does not exceed 150 square feet in area, 25 feet in height, and is not placed closer than 10 feet from any street right-of-way. The freestanding sign described herein may contain off-premises advertising if the freestanding sign complies with the requirements of this provision and the off premises establishment advertised is located on a lot that is immediately adjacent to the lot on which the freestanding sign is located. Front, rear and side back setback requirements for the District must be followed when positioning sign. Posts or anchoring mechanisms for the sign shall not be located on public property.

   6. Off-Premises Signs – Other than Paragraph B(1) above, off Off-premise or billboard signs shall only be allowed on a modified “cap and replace” basis.