

**MINUTES  
CITY OF ST. CHARLES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MONDAY, JULY 22, 2013  
MUNICIPAL CENTER PLAZA – WEST SIDE OF BUILDING**

**Members Present:** Chairman Smunt, Bobowiec, Prestidge, Pretz, Withey, Norris

**Members Absent:** Weals

**Also Present:** Russell Colby, Planning Division Manager

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**1. Call to order:**

Chairman Smunt called the meeting to order at 9:30pm.

**2. Roll call:**

Chairman Smunt called roll with six members present. There was a quorum.

**3. COA: 2 E. Main St. (lighting)**

Peter Suhr, Assistant Public Works Director, Steve Vasillion, Architect from Prairie Forge, and Shanna Olson, Lighting Designer from KJWW, were present.

Mr. Vasillion directed the Commission to the lighting placed for demonstration purposes. Two different tones were displayed- 4000k (a brighter pure white) and 3000k (a more amber tone). He noted LED flood lights are planned in the tower recesses; LED grazing light bars are planned on the clock portion of the tower and around the second floor above the canopy, and LED rope lighting would be hidden beneath the lower canopy. He asked the Commission members to state which tone they preferred and if they preferred two flood lights (for a fluted effect) vs. a single light source in the recesses He stated his preference was for two flood lights in the recesses and use of the 3000k, which is a more romantic appearance more fitting the era of the building. He felt the 4000k was too stark.

Chairman Smunt asked the Commission members to each weigh in on the options. He stated their decisions should be based on what is more appropriate for showcasing the building.

Mr. Norris preferred two flood fixtures and the 3000k color. He stated the downtown is lit with warmer colors and the white is too bright and harsh and not period sensitive.

Mr. Bobowiec stated he preferred the 3000k which is closer to the period of the building. He noted the City has been trying to restore the building and plaza to its original design, and this would be more appropriate for the era of the building.

Mr. Prestidge stated he preferred the 4000k because it looks more like the marble on the building and is more distinctive. He noted it is similar to the white flood lights already in use.

Mr. Pretz said he would like to see the 3500k, however, of the two options, he prefers the 3000k. He agreed two flood fixtures was preferred also. Mr. Vasilion noted the 3500k is not readily available and may not easy to obtain within the project schedule.

Mr. Withey agreed with two flood fixtures. He preferred the 4000k which appeared whiter. He said the 3000k gave the building the appearance of a sandstone material.

Chairman Smunt stated he agreed with two fixtures. Regarding the tone, he said he could go either way. He felt that both options would be acceptable. The 4000k makes the white marble appear white, but the 3000k is warmer.

Mr. Pretz noted that the further away you stand, the less noticeable the tone difference. Mr. Bobowiec felt the more historical scheme was more appropriate. Chairman Smunt said warmer was more typical of the original appearance of the building.

Ms. Olson noted that the 4000k would create a brighter white that is visible from a further distance away, while the 3000k is more neutral. She noted that warmer tones are more common in the downtown area, so it is a question of whether you prefer the building stand out vs. blend in.

Chairman Smunt asked for a motion.

**A motion was made by Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Bobowiec to approve the COA with use of the 3000k lighting and two flood fixtures. Mr. Norris, Mr. Bobowiec, and Mr. Pretz voted yes and the motion to approve carried.** Mr. Withey and Mr. Prestidge stated they would prefer the 4000k. Chairman Smunt said would have voted for the 3000k.

#### **4. Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Steven Smunt, Chairman  
St. Charles Historic Preservation Commission