CITY OF FORT ATKINSON PRESS RELEASE:

UPDATE ON CITY ZONING ORDINANCE REWRITE AND NEW ZONING MAP: MAY 29, 2020

On May 28th, the City of Fort Atkinson completed another component of Phase 2 of its project to draft a rewrite of the City's Zoning Ordinance and create a new Zoning Map. The Zoning Ordinance and Map will only affect properties within the Fort Atkinson city limits, and will not apply to any property in any of the nearby towns, villages, or cities. The project began approximately 16 months ago, following the adoption of the City's new Comprehensive Plan. Creation of a modern approach was a key recommendation of the Plan.

Phase I: Draft Zoning Ordinance, included two working sessions (January 23 and February 20) with the City Council, Plan Commission, public, City Staff, and consultants from Vandewalle & Associates.

The same groups are now working on Phase 2: Draft Zoning Map. The Draft Map makes recommendations to assign the new zoning districts to all properties within the city limits. The draft Zoning Map is designed to more accurately reflect the actual pattern of land uses where development is present, and to reflect the recommendations of the new Comprehensive Plan on undeveloped properties.

Phase 2 has included two public meetings to this point (May 13 and May 28). One to discuss the process of rezoning the City and the other to discuss possible changes to the assigned zoning district of properties based on their existing use. Following the May 28th meeting, it was decided that all properties where a proposed change of zoning district is recommended to reflect the existing use of the property (rather than the existing zoning district) will be notified via mail and provided the ability to attend a separate meeting to discuss the potential change. This process is expected to take place over the next 6-10 weeks. Effected property owners can expect a mailing sometime in June or early July. The additional public meeting has not yet been scheduled.

The final phase of the project, Phase 3: Public Hearing on the Draft Zoning Ordinance and Map at the Plan Commission, is expected to take place sometime in late summer. It will be followed by the Plan Commission’s recommendation to the City Council and the Council’s vote to adopt the Ordinance and Map as proposed, or to send the draft Ordinance and Map back to Plan Commission for further work.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE THE CITY’S WEBSITE WWW.FORTATKINSONWI.NET OR CONTACT CITY STAFF AT: BJVAREZ@FORTATKINSONWI.NET