1	BEFORE THE CITY OF BELOIT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS							
2	In the Matter of Administrative Appeal RE: Architectural							
3	2102 Freeman Parkway, Parcel No. 22031650.							
4								
5	Beloit Health System 1969 West Hart Road							
6	Beloit, WI 53511 BOA-2022-01							
7	and							
8	Nommo Donald 2885 East Deer Path Court Beloit, WI 53511							
10	Appellants.							
11								
12	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS of the hearing before							
13	the City of Beloit Zoning Board of Appeals, taken before							
14	Margaret M. Ciembronowicz, Certified Shorthand Reporter, at							
15	City Hall Forum, 100 State Street, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511,							
16	taken on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, commencing at 6:00 p.m.							
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1	APPEARANCES:	
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18		appearing on behalf of OrthoIllinois.
19		
20	BOARD MEMBERS	PRESENT: Kara Purviance, Chairperson Susan Adams
21		David Baker
0.0		Dustin Gronau
22		John Petersen
23		
24		
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1 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right. I'm
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- 2 going to go ahead and call the meeting of the board
- 3 of appeals to order at 6:02 p.m.
- 4 Mr. Pennington, will you go ahead and
- 5 call the roll for us, please?
- 6 MR. PENNINGTON: John Petersen?
- 7 MR. PETERSEN: Here.
- 8 MR. PENNINGTON: Dustin Gronau?
- 9 MR. GRONAU: Here.
- 10 MR. PENNINGTON: Kara Purviance?
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Here.
- MR. PENNINGTON: David Baker?
- MR. BAKER: Here.
- MR. PENNINGTON: Brooke Joos?
- 15 (No reply.)
- MR. PENNINGTON: Susan Adams?
- MS. ADAMS: Here.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right. We do
- 19 have a quorum.
- The board meeting and the public
- 21 hearing to be considered this evening are open to
- 22 the public, which means that anyone present may
- 23 speak providing they identify themselves.
- This evening we will be beginning
- 25 with Item No. 2, approval of minutes, 2.a,

- 1 consideration of the minutes of the March 8th, 2022
- 2 meeting, BOA minutes 3/8/22.
- 3 Item 3, the public hearing contested
- 4 case proceedings. 3.a, contested case hearing.
- 5 Beloit Health System and Nommo Donald have filed an
- 6 appeal of administrative decision of the Director of
- 7 Planning and Building Services Zoning Officer's
- 8 approval of an architectural review certificate and
- 9 certificate of zoning compliance on January 14th,
- 10 2022, for a new medical facility in a C-3, community
- 11 commercial district, for the property located at
- 12 2102 Freeman Parkway.
- 13 Item 3.b will be deliberation on
- 14 Beloit Health System and Nommo Donald's appeal. The
- 15 board of appeals may adjourn into closed session
- 16 pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(a), Wisconsin Statute,
- 17 to deliberate concerning a case which was the
- 18 subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or
- 19 hearing before this body.
- 20 Item 3.c., determination of the board
- 21 on the Beloit Health System and Nommo Donald appeal,
- 22 and;
- Item 4 will be adjournment.
- 24 All right. Item 2, approval of
- 25 minutes. Item 2.a., consideration of the minutes of

- 1 the March 8th, 2022 meeting.
- 2 MR. BAKER: I move we approve the minutes
- 3 as presented.
- 4 MR. PETERSEN: I'll second.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right. We
- 6 have a motion and a second to approve the minutes as
- 7 submitted. All those in favor please say aye.
- 8 (Whereupon, all the ayes were
- 9 heard.)
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Any opposed with
- 11 no?
- 12 (Whereupon, no nays were heard.)
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right.
- 14 Minutes are approved.
- 15 All right. The City of Beloit Board
- of Appeals is an appellate board required by state
- 17 law in any municipality which has adopted a zoning
- 18 ordinance. The board is a quasi-judicial body whose
- 19 purpose is to give full and fair hearing to any
- 20 person whose property interests are directly or
- 21 adversely affected by the provisions of the zoning
- 22 ordinance or an interpretation of the ordinance by
- 23 the local administrative officials.
- The board does not have authority to
- 25 amend or repeal any provision of the zoning

- 1 ordinance. Its sole authority is to interpret the
- 2 ordinance and apply its provisions to the factual
- 3 situation presented. In each case, the City will
- 4 recommend approval or denial of the variance
- 5 request; however, the board may follow, modify or
- 6 completely reverse the City staff's recommendation.
- 7 The board is interested in hearing
- 8 all pertinent evidence. Witnesses in favor of the
- 9 appeal or application will be called following the
- 10 staff report. Those opposed second, and persons in
- 11 interest last.
- 12 After each witness has appeared, they
- 13 may be cross-examined by the board, the Applicant
- 14 and the City staff.
- Persons present who are not appearing
- 16 as witnesses will be allowed to propose relevant
- 17 questions to the board; however, the Chair reserves
- 18 the right to rule on relevancy. Because a record of
- 19 this hearing is being tape recorded, it is
- 20 imperative that each witness or speaker state their
- 21 name and address and their interest in the subject
- 22 matter of this hearing before speaking, and speak
- 23 into the microphone at the podium.
- 24 We will not, at this time, impose any
- 25 time limits on presentations; however, we request

- 1 that you avoid repetition, and limit your comments
- 2 to the subject matter being considered. Neither the
- 3 board nor the public will benefit from hearing
- 4 statements that repeat opinions which have already
- 5 been expressed or that relate to matters other than
- 6 the case before the board. Personal attacks,
- 7 abusive, belligerent or badgering testimony and
- 8 gross hearsay, rumor or gossip, will be ruled out of
- 9 order by the Chair.
- 10 All right. The contested case
- 11 hearing on Beloit System and Nommo Donald is now --
- 12 is hereby open and called to order.
- Mr. Pennington, have the news media,
- 14 general public, Applicant and property owner been
- 15 notified of this hearing?
- MR. PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right.
- 18 Mr. Pennington, would you please read
- 19 the staff report and recommendation?
- 20 MR. FEELEY: Madam Chair, if I may just
- 21 interrupt for one, actually, two housekeeping
- 22 matters?
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Hmmm.
- 24 MR. FEELEY: One is, there are a number of
- 25 witnesses that were subpoenaed to appear today by

- 1 authority of the Rock County Circuit Court. I had a
- 2 conversation with Mr. Roth earlier today about
- 3 releasing one of those witnesses, the city clerk,
- 4 who I believe is Ms. Gulger -- Gulgan.
- 5 MR. ROTH: I think that's right.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: At any rate, in return for
- 7 releasing the subpoena on that individual, the City
- 8 has agreed, and I would like to put a stipulation on
- 9 the record for purposes of the presentation and
- 10 hearing record in this appeal, the stipulation is
- 11 that documents that have been -- that were disclosed
- 12 by the City and/or created by the City in the
- 13 exhibits submitted by Beloit Health System in this
- 14 matter, the parties stipulate are true, correct and
- 15 authentic copies of the City documents that they
- 16 represent.
- 17 MR. ROTH: That's accurate. We agree with
- 18 that.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay.
- MR. FEELEY: And then, Madam Chair, I'll
- 21 just bring this to your attention, because I just
- 22 found out myself. Ms. Donald, one of my clients,
- 23 just advised me that there are three members of the
- 24 public who are present, and I guess would like to
- 25 make a statement under No. 15 of the rules of

- 1 procedure, and I would simply ask consideration that
- 2 with respect to those members of the public, they be
- 3 allowed to do it earlier, perhaps at the beginning
- 4 of these proceedings, rather than the end as listed
- 5 in the rules of procedure.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Mr. Pennington,
- 7 would you mind allowing some public comment prior to
- 8 the staff report?
- 9 MR. PENNINGTON: It's fine with staff.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay. All right.
- 11 So then at this time, I'll go ahead and -- I do not
- 12 have the names of the members of the public who are
- 13 here who would like to speak, but if I could have
- 14 someone come up to the podium who's here to speak,
- 15 and state their name and address for the record.
- 16 MR. FEELEY: I don't know who these folks
- 17 are, so now go ahead.
- 18 MR. KORBOL: Good evening. I'm Michael
- 19 Korbol. I'm born and raised in Beloit. My family's
- 20 name has been around since before 1900 in the city.
- 21 I live at 2262 Walnut Grove, just two blocks down
- 22 from the development. I am a member of Walnut Grove
- 23 Homeowners Association, which is a new condominium
- 24 development in that area. Do I go ahead and
- 25 continue to speak or do I stop? Continue? Okay.

- 1 All right. Thank you.
- I'm just here to talk about the
- 3 possible adverse circumstances that may result from
- 4 this decision by the commission and the City.
- 5 As a homeowner, the Turtle Creek
- 6 area, as everybody knows, is a nice environmental
- 7 area, and I was just shocked to see four acres of
- 8 wooded land along the Turtle Creek being torn down
- 9 of old grove trees. I don't know why that happened
- 10 there. I wasn't sure why OrthoIllinois is not
- 11 building out by G5 or somewhere else. I consider
- 12 that unfortunate.
- The area along the Turtle Creek is a
- 14 environmental protected area. They're building just
- 15 feet away. There's going to be pollution that goes
- 16 into the creek. There's litter, pollution already
- 17 along Fuller Street, which is just along the side
- 18 there. It's a potholed-ridden street that's going
- 19 to have to be replaced. It's an unsafe area. There
- 20 are no walking paths, biking paths. There are a
- 21 number of people in the area that walk their dogs,
- 22 run and bike. It's a residential community. I know
- 23 it's zoned differently, but if you go out and tour
- 24 the area, it's completely residential. There's
- 25 half-million-dollar homes, quarter-million-dollar

- 1 homes, and 30 yards away there's a multiunit
- 2 apartment building which is full of family and kids.
- 3 School buses pull up there every morning to put
- 4 their kids on the bus. And all of that is going to
- 5 be disrupted by the heavy traffic of OrthoIllinois.
- 6 And to be in full disclosure, I'm a physician
- 7 assistant. I have worked with the Beloit Health
- 8 System previously, and I have also worked with
- 9 OrthoIllinois. So I'm trying to stay neutral on
- 10 this subject. I know many people in both
- 11 circumstances.
- 12 As a homeowner, the only way into the
- 13 condo association is along Freeman Parkway, and
- 14 that's going to get very busy and very dangerous.
- 15 There's going to be increased traffic, and you know
- 16 there's going to be accidents along that area. I
- 17 think it's going to be dangerous with the kids that
- 18 play in the area, and they play in the street. They
- 19 play on the ground. There's no City playground
- 20 there, so they play wherever they can.
- 21 As people know here, you play in the
- 22 street, and now there's going to be increased
- 23 traffic in that area, and I think it's going to be
- 24 very dangerous. Right now we're protected by the
- 25 Walmart and Menard's area, because that area behind

- 1 that is completely residential.
- 2 My mother and many friends live along
- 3 the Fuller Condominium Association, which is just
- 4 next door as well, and many of them have moved into
- 5 this area just for the privacy and the quietness
- 6 that we have. And I think the home values are going
- 7 to go down throughout the entire community.
- 8 I think there's going to be a lot of
- 9 light pollution in the area because it's going to be
- 10 24/7 community that's being built by this business.
- 11 There's going to be a lot of noise pollution in the
- 12 area. The people that live 30 yards away, I don't
- 13 see how they're going to sleep, and then you're
- 14 going to increase the auto exhaust in the area as
- 15 well. Me, personally, I have respiratory issues.
- 16 You keep increasing the auto exhaust areas, I'm
- 17 going to have to take more inhalers. I'm already
- 18 having a problem having to live through COVID with
- 19 the health system, and now I'm going to have to live
- 20 through all of the increased community. It's one of
- 21 the reasons I moved into the condo association which
- 22 used to be a farm field. I know the area. I grew
- 23 up in the area, and now I've made a poor decision.
- 24 I might have to move.
- I think the safety concerns are

- 1 probably the biggest concerns again with the small
- 2 children and families in the area. I don't think
- 3 the City has required bike paths. I don't think
- 4 they require walking paths. The sidewalks are
- 5 discontinuous in the area, and there's only two
- 6 streets that intersect in that area, so it's going
- 7 to be a very heavily congested road, and I just
- 8 don't think it's safe from many points of view.
- 9 I guess that's all I have to say.
- 10 Any questions from me?
- 11 MR. PETERSEN: Thank you.
- MR. KORBOL: All right. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Would the next
- 14 individual from the public who's wishing to speak
- 15 come forward? State your name and address for the
- 16 record, please.
- MS. DONALD: Good evening. My name is
- 18 Nommo Donald. I live at 2885 East Deer Path Court.
- 19 And the purpose for me being here tonight is to also
- 20 express my interest regarding the City's approval
- 21 for a nearly 27,000 square feet inventory surgery
- 22 center to be built on Freeman Parkway.
- I joined this community to support
- 24 the great work of the Beloit Healthcare System. As
- 25 a condition of my employment, Beloit Healthcare

- 1 System Hospital President, Timothy McKevett,
- 2 required that I live within the city limits of
- 3 Beloit as he does all executive-level professionals
- 4 and caregivers joining our community. However, I
- 5 must admit to you, finding a home for me and my
- 6 six-year-old daughter was quite an undertaking due
- 7 to the lack of available suitable housing. But to
- 8 demonstrate my commitment to the community, I was
- 9 able to finally purchase a property on East Deer
- 10 Path Court. It was my understanding further
- 11 development of the property on Freeman Parkway,
- 12 which is nearly seven acres of our cozy, quiet
- 13 residential community, was intended for mixed
- 14 residential development as opposed to a mega
- 15 commercial development within our immediate
- 16 surroundings.
- 17 Its beginning construction has
- 18 already begun to impact our tranquil neighborhood
- 19 with the removal of the beautiful trees of nature,
- 20 making noise from I-90 even more prevalent. Because
- 21 the facility, if allowed to continue to build there,
- 22 will be permitted to operate 24 hours a day, 5 days
- 23 a week, upon completion, we will experience
- 24 increased traffic, including emergency motor
- vehicles as well as additional noise and football

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- 1 stadium lighting all throughout the night.
- 2 I come before you this evening
- 3 because although I am proud to be part of a growing
- 4 community, we find this approved development to be
- 5 inconsistent with the City's current ordinance and
- 6 long-range planning for the land that is in a mixed
- 7 residential community consisting of single-family
- 8 homes, residential units and townhomes.
- 9 I purchased the property on East Deer
- 10 Path Court with the understanding I would have the
- 11 legal right to enjoy and rely upon the restrictions
- 12 afforded by the City's comprehensive long-range plan
- 13 and commitment to housing as stated by the president
- 14 of the city council during the State of the City
- 15 Address this past March 22nd -- sorry -- 23rd of
- 16 this year.
- 17 So with all things considered, my ask
- 18 of you this evening is that you revisit our zoning
- 19 ordinance, along with the long-range planning for
- 20 the City of Beloit. The approval of this commercial
- 21 construction is in contradiction to what the City
- 22 has committed to the citizens of Beloit for housing,
- 23 particularly in this residential neighborhood many
- 24 of us call home.
- Thank you for your time and

- 1 reconsideration.
- 2 MR. PETERSEN: Thank you.
- 3 MS. MILLS: Molly Mills, 2905 East Deer
- 4 Path Way.
- I don't want to repeat what's already
- 6 been said. I completely agree that I'm very upset
- 7 by the change in the zoning to allow, instead of
- 8 mixed residential use of this property for the
- 9 medical center, equally concerned about the
- 10 increased traffic. We have one way out. We get a
- 11 line of traffic right now behind the school bus
- 12 every morning, all the people exiting the
- 13 neighborhood, and now we're going to have a medical
- 14 center on the same street where we're all lining up,
- and there's people bringing their kids across the
- 16 street, and we've got on-street parking, and it's
- 17 already restricted. And I walk my dogs, same
- 18 street. There's, like was already said, there's not
- 19 continuous sidewalks. We're walking on the street.
- 20 It's not well lit. One street sign outside of the
- 21 apartment area. One street sign -- one stop -- one
- 22 light at the four-way stop, one light at the
- 23 apartment building. It's dark streets, you know, in
- 24 the morning and early in the evening all winter
- 25 long, and people are walking on the street, and now

- 1 we're putting in a medical center with lots of
- 2 traffic without addressing the safety of the
- 3 residents.
- 4 The last communication I recall was a
- 5 postcard to the residents saying that we would have
- 6 mixed-use housing and small business development in
- 7 the area with a, you know, kind of a layout of what
- 8 that would look like, and that's the last
- 9 communication I had. So I don't know how, in
- 10 December, the input from the neighborhood was
- 11 collected to determine that there was no concern
- 12 from the neighborhood with this zoning change.
- So thank you for hearing my input
- 14 today, and I strongly oppose this change in zoning.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you.
- 16 MR. CHRISTOFFERSON: I'm Martin
- 17 Christofferson, 2747 East Ridge Road. I just moved
- 18 in there last July 31st, and in that time that I've
- 19 lived there, and there's a lot of people that walk
- 20 the streets and talk all the time, I was not made
- 21 aware of this possible change, and given how much I
- 22 enjoy my view, I think this is the view of the creek
- 23 there. This is the prime area for residential
- 24 housing in Beloit to be expanded, and I think we
- 25 need more rooftops in Beloit, and I can't imagine

- 1 why we would waste such prime land for a commercial
- 2 development that would be just as well served in an
- 3 industrial park or any of the different industrial
- 4 areas. Certainly the view is not needed for a
- 5 medical facility such as we have here. And,
- 6 otherwise, I basically had all the same concerns
- 7 that they have, so I won't bother you with that.
- 8 But I thought the City needed rooftops for
- 9 higher-end housing, and there's no better place for
- 10 that than this, and, otherwise, I really -- I didn't
- 11 hear anything about this. I know you guys said -- I
- 12 heard that supposedly the community was told, but
- 13 I've been there since July. I didn't receive any
- 14 mailings. Nobody came and put anything in our
- 15 mailbox about this, so I don't feel that we were
- 16 truly updated on what was about to happen. Anyway,
- 17 that's -- I'm opposed.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you.
- 19 Are there any other members of the public
- 20 this evening wishing to make public comment at this
- 21 time?
- (No public comment.)
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right. Seeing
- 24 none, we'll go ahead then with, Mr. Pennington, if
- 25 you would please read the staff report and

- 1 recommendation. Thank you.
- 2 MR. PENNINGTON: Sure.
- 3 Beloit Health System and Nommo Donald
- 4 have filed an appeal of administrative decision of
- 5 the director of planning and building services
- 6 approval of the architectural review certificate and
- 7 certificate of zoning compliance on January 14th,
- 8 2022, for a new medical facility in the C-3,
- 9 community commercial district, for the property of
- 10 2102 Freeman Parkway.
- The board of appeals is authorized to
- 12 hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is
- 13 an error in the order, requirement, decision or
- 14 determination made by any administrative official of
- 15 the City in administration of the zoning ordinance.
- This appeal relates to the
- 17 development of an ambulatory surgery center on the
- 18 property at 2102 Freeman Parkway by Rockford
- 19 Orthopedic Associates doing business as
- 20 OrthoIllinois. The project is under construction
- 21 with building permits. Project renderings indicate
- the completed facility will be named OrthoWisconsin
- 23 Surgery Center. This appeal was submitted by Beloit
- 24 Health System, signed by Timothy McKevett, President
- 25 and CEO. This appeal was co-signed by Nommo Donald,

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- 1 a resident of the City of Beloit at 2885 East Deer
- 2 Path Court. Beloit Memorial Hospital, which is
- 3 owned by Beloit Health System, is 3.3 miles north of
- 4 the subject property. Ms. Donald's residence is two
- 5 blocks, about 1700 feet north of this subject
- 6 property.
- 7 The property is a vacant, seven-acre
- 8 property along Turtle Creek previously used as a
- 9 supper club or restaurant locally known as The
- 10 Manor. The Manor building was demolished in 2011,
- 11 and the property sat vacant for more than a decade
- 12 until OrthoIllinois began working in March of this
- 13 year. The subject property is zoned C-3, community
- 14 commercial. Parts of the property are within a
- 15 floodplain overlay district. There's a recently
- 16 rehabilitated multifamily apartment development
- 17 known as Maple Creek, zoned R-3 to the east, and a
- 18 single-family dwelling zoned R-1A, to the north.
- 19 The subject property is just north of Fuller Drive
- 20 and the Menards store.
- There's a location and zoning map
- 22 attached to the staff report showing the location of
- 23 this facility along with the surrounding zoning
- 24 classifications.
- 25 On September 30th, 2021,

- 1 OrthoIllinois submitted site and architectural plans
- 2 for the construction of a 26,571 square foot
- 3 ambulatory surgery center or ASC with nursing or
- 4 recovery suites on the subject property. Planning
- 5 staff reviewed the plans against City of Beloit
- 6 ordinances and issued several rounds of review
- 7 comments resulting in revised plans before
- 8 ultimately approving the plans on January 14th,
- 9 2022. The formal document approving architectural
- 10 and site plans is called the architectural review
- 11 certificate and certificate of zoning compliance.
- 12 OrthoIllinois' contractor obtained a building permit
- on January 14th, and work is underway.
- 14 The approved site plan and
- 15 architectural review certificate and certificate of
- 16 zoning compliance are in the official record for
- 17 this matter. A full set of civil site plans is also
- in the official record. The approved site plan
- 19 includes the building, one driveway on Freeman
- 20 Parkway, multiple parking lots, stormwater
- 21 management areas, sidewalks, that includes both
- 22 public sidewalks along the frontage of Freeman
- 23 Parkway, and landscaping, lighting, et cetera. All
- 24 of these elements were reviewed against the
- 25 standards in the City ordinances.

- 1 This particular development also
- 2 obtained a land management plan which is for native
- 3 or prairie grasses over eight inches in height. As
- 4 part of that process, City staff notified
- 5 surrounding property owners within 200 feet and
- 6 solicited objections. No objections were received
- 7 by any of the neighboring property owners, and the
- 8 land management plan was approved along with the
- 9 site plan.
- 10 With respect to the C-3, community
- 11 commercial zoning. The property is zoned C-3. The
- 12 property has been zoned C-3 for decades. That has
- 13 not changed. It has not been rezoned recently.
- 14 There has been no notification of the neighborhood,
- 15 because the property has not been rezoned. Section
- 16 4-802 of the zoning code states, "Uses shall be
- 17 allowed in the C-3 district in accordance with the
- 18 use regulations, Article VI, and all other
- 19 applicable standards of this chapter." Article VI
- 20 of the zoning code includes the use table, which is
- 21 included in the official record.
- The use table identifies property
- 23 uses as permitted by right, which is denoted with a
- 24 "P," as in "Paul," conditional "C," as in "Cat" or
- 25 uses not allowed. Permitted by right uses are

- 1 automatically allowed on a parcel of land as long as
- 2 the plans meet City requirements. As shown in the
- 3 use table, medical facilities are permitted by right
- 4 in the C-3 districts. Medical facilities are
- 5 defined in Section 11.2.4 of the zoning ordinance
- 6 which explicitly lists ambulatory surgery centers as
- 7 an example of a medical facility that's a permitted
- 8 use.
- 9 There's an ordinance in the official
- 10 record, Ordinance No. 3719 that was adopted on
- 11 September 20th of 2021, to clarify the ordinance as
- 12 it relates to medical facilities by changing the
- 13 word "hospitals" as a use category, to "medical
- 14 facility," and broadening the definition and
- 15 examples to include surgery centers, medical
- 16 offices, hospitals, et cetera.
- 17 The important note that both
- 18 hospitals and medical facilities -- excuse me --
- 19 medical offices were permitted by right in the C-3
- 20 district prior to Ordinance No. 3719. In other
- 21 words, both hospitals and mini hospitals would have
- 22 been permitted by right on the subject property even
- 23 without the clarifications in Ordinance No. 3719.
- When development plans are submitted
- 25 for a property, they are reviewed against the City's

- 1 current zoning classification, which I said earlier
- 2 is C-3 and has been C-3.
- 3 As far as building plan review. The
- 4 City of Beloit does not license or regulate the
- 5 operation of healthcare facilities. Those
- 6 responsibilities lie with the state and federal
- 7 governments. In Wisconsin, the building plans for
- 8 healthcare facilities like hospitals and nursing
- 9 homes, are reviewed by the Wisconsin Department of
- 10 Health Services, while building plans for
- 11 freestanding day surgery centers like OrthoWisconsin
- 12 Surgery Center, are reviewed by the Wisconsin
- 13 Department of Safety and Professional Services,
- 14 known as DSPS. That's similar for all commercial
- 15 and industrial buildings. The proposed surgery
- 16 center facility was approved by the City's DSPS
- 17 authorized building plan reviewer on December 15th
- 18 of 2021.
- 19 The classification of the proposed
- 20 OrthoWisconsin Surgery Center by the State as a
- 21 hospital or ASC or nursing home for building plan
- 22 purposes, had no bearing on the City's decision
- 23 whether the proposed project was permitted under the
- 24 zoning code. That is because hospitals, surgery
- 25 centers, nursing homes, et cetera, are all examples

- 1 of medical facilities under the City's ordinance.
- 2 They are all permitted by right in the C-3 zoning
- 3 district.
- 4 City staff had no obligation to
- 5 condition site plan approval on a state or federal
- 6 licensing requirement, particularly when all of the
- 7 possible license types fall within one permitted
- 8 land use category.
- 9 As far as the comprehensive planning
- 10 law. Section 66.1001 of Wisconsin Statutes is the
- 11 comprehensive planning law, which defines
- 12 comprehensive plan as the guide to the physical,
- 13 social and economic development of a local
- 14 governmental unit. A comprehensive plan must
- 15 contain nine elements, one of which is land use.
- 16 Under the comprehensive plan law, if a local
- 17 government "enacts or amends" a zoning ordinance,
- 18 that ordinance must be consistent with the adopted
- 19 comprehensive plan. In other words, if a property
- 20 is proposed to be rezoned, the proposed rezoning
- 21 must be consistent with the plan. The plan itself
- 22 is a guide to future rezoning actions, but it is not
- 23 a regulation. In fact, Section 66.1001(2m)(a) of
- 24 the Wisconsin Statutes states, "the enactment of a
- 25 comprehensive plan by ordinance does not make the

- 1 comprehensive plan itself a regulation."
- 2 In the implementation section of our
- 3 comprehensive plan, Chapter 10, Section (C)(2)
- 4 states, "proposed zoning map amendments or rezonings
- 5 should be consistent with the recommendations of
- 6 this plan." Importantly, this means that the
- 7 issuance of a plan approval or a developmental
- 8 approval under the current zoning ordinance is not a
- 9 decision to which the comprehensive plan applies.
- In summary, the proposed ambulatory
- 11 surgery center was evaluated against the applicable
- 12 regulation, which is the zoning ordinance and not
- 13 the long-term comprehensive plan. The proposed use
- 14 is permitted as a right in the C-3 zoning district,
- and the site plans were approved because they comply
- 16 with the City's use and development standards.
- 17 Beloit Health System and Ms. Donald
- 18 submitted their appeal application on February 14th,
- 19 2022, 30 days after the OrthoWisconsin Surgery
- 20 Center received site plan approval and a building
- 21 permit was issued. Therefore, as far as the staff
- 22 recommendation, the planning and building services
- 23 division recommends denial of the Applicants' appeal
- 24 based upon the above considerations in support of
- 25 City staff's issuance of an architectural review

- 1 certificate and certificate of zoning compliance for
- 2 the construction of a medical facility at 2102
- 3 Freeman Parkway.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you,
- 5 Mr. Pennington.
- 6 Do any board members wish to question
- 7 Mr. Pennington concerning the staff report?
- 8 (No questions asked.)
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay. With that,
- 10 does the Applicant wish to question Mr. Pennington
- 11 regarding the staff report?
- MR. FEELEY: I do wish to question him as
- 13 a witness. Are we not following the rules of
- 14 procedure?
- MR. FLEMING: Chair, I think at this
- 16 point, these are just opening -- well, the staff --
- 17 we get a staff report, and then the parties get to
- 18 have opening statements, then the City would present
- 19 its case in chief, and once people are presenting
- 20 their case in chief, that's the opportunity under
- 21 the procedures for questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay.
- MR. FLEMING: So step back to it.
- 24 After -- yeah, no, it would have to be after that.
- 25 I was looking to see if -- make sure there wasn't an

- 1 opportunity for questions by the board, but that
- 2 only happens after the cases in chief begin.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Very well. So at
- 4 this time then, we would move on to the Applicant
- 5 then sharing their case?
- 6 MR. FLEMING: Well, they would make their
- 7 opening -- opening statement.
- 8 MR. FEELEY: So the staff would make the
- 9 opening statement, Appellant or Applicant, and then
- 10 statement of persons aggrieved?
- 11 MR. FLEMING: Correct.
- MR. FEELEY: So that would signal to me an
- 13 opening statement by the City attorney --
- MR. FLEMING: Yeah, I spoke with the City.
- 15 Yeah, you're right. The City should supplement --
- 16 do you have anything else other than the staff
- 17 report to say?
- MR. ROTH: Yeah, I mean, I guess I'm happy
- 19 to make my argument at this point if that makes
- 20 sense.
- MR. FLEMING: Sure.
- 22 MR. ROTH: In terms of the case in chief,
- 23 we don't intend to rely on anyone but
- 24 Mr. Pennington's staff report, so, you know, I'm
- 25 happy to do my argument now, otherwise, I can do it

- 1 after the case in chief stage and No. 5. Frankly, I
- 2 don't care either way. I'm happy to do it now.
- MR. FEELEY: Your choice, my friend.
- 4 MR. ROTH: I'll go ahead. And I'll try
- 5 not to be repetitive, because I think
- 6 Mr. Pennington, in his staff report, outlined most
- 7 of what I had on my agenda to say.
- I do think one thing that I want to make
- 9 absolutely clear is the board's role here this
- 10 evening. And the board's role is not to simply
- 11 decide, as a matter of policy, whether this proposed
- 12 project is a good idea. It's not the board's role
- 13 here tonight to decide whether the current zoning of
- 14 this property is a good idea. The only thing the
- 15 board here is charged with tonight is evaluating the
- 16 project that's been proposed at this property and
- 17 deciding whether the City's zoning officer correctly
- 18 decided that the project conforms with the current
- 19 zoning at the property. That's the only thing the
- 20 board is here to do tonight.
- 21 And so I think to accomplish that task,
- 22 and, again, I'll try not to repeat too much of what
- 23 Mr. Pennington said, I think there's just a few
- 24 basic relevant facts that matter here. One, what is
- 25 the proposed project that the City has approved? As

- 1 Mr. Pennington has explained to you, it's an
- 2 ambulatory surgery center proposed by OrthoIllinois,
- 3 and that as part of this surgery center, there will
- 4 be accompanying it a number of lodging suites for
- 5 patients who have been discharged to stay overnight
- 6 after their procedures have been completed at the
- 7 ambulatory surgery center. So that's what we're
- 8 dealing with here today. That's the project that's
- 9 at issue.
- 10 So the second relevant question for the
- 11 board, and as I've alluded to this already, how is
- 12 the property currently zoned? And as Mr. Pennington
- 13 explained, the property is currently zoned C-3. And
- 14 so, again, the question for the board, what kinds of
- 15 uses are permitted in a C-3 zone? If you look at
- 16 the use table that Mr. Pennington referenced, you'll
- 17 see that one of the types of uses that is permitted
- 18 by right are medical facilities. And so we ask
- 19 ourselves then, well, what is a medical facility?
- 20 What does that mean? And, again, we can look in the
- 21 City ordinance, and it helpfully defines what a
- 22 medical facility is. There's a number of
- 23 characteristics that are listed, and it's about what
- 24 you would expect given the name medical facility.
- 25 It says a medical facility, quote, uses -- "medical

- 1 facility uses" excuse me, "provide medical, dental
- 2 or vision examinations, care, treatment or
- 3 laboratory services, or they provide surgical care."
- 4 So those are some characteristics of a medical
- 5 facility. The ordinance goes on to list a few
- 6 examples, like different kinds of medical facilities
- 7 that you might expect to see. Those include
- 8 hospitals, medical, dental or vision clinics,
- 9 laboratories, emergency medical clinics, ambulatory
- 10 surgery centers, nursing homes, and then there's a
- 11 few more examples.
- So, again, let's revisit what we've talked
- 13 about so far. We have a proposed project that's an
- 14 ambulatory surgery center. We have C-3 zoning,
- 15 which we look at the use table, we see that C-3
- 16 zoning allows medical facilities as a right; in
- 17 other words, that should make clear that doesn't
- 18 require a conditional use permit. These are uses
- 19 that are permitted by right. We've looked at the
- 20 definition of a medical facility, and I think when
- 21 you look at those three factors, it becomes very
- 22 clear that the City's decision was, in fact,
- 23 correct.
- OrthoIllinois has proposed to build an
- 25 ambulatory surgery center, which we've just heard,

- 1 is expressly included in the definition of a medical
- 2 facility, which, again, is a permitted by right use
- 3 in a C-3 zone. And I think that's all the board
- 4 really needs to do to resolve this question here
- 5 tonight.
- 6 Very briefly, I will address, in advance,
- 7 because I suspect I know what my friend on the other
- 8 side here will say, and so I'd like to briefly
- 9 address some of the arguments that BHS has raised as
- 10 to why the decision of the City should be reversed.
- 11 The first argument that BHS has made is
- 12 that the decision is inconsistent with the City's
- 13 comprehensive plan. Again, I will just briefly
- 14 repeat what Mr. Pennington said, but he's absolutely
- 15 correct that the City's comprehensive plan does not
- 16 regulate current uses. In other words, it doesn't
- 17 rezone existing properties. It's a set of
- 18 recommendations for future uses, and there is
- 19 nothing in state law that requires individual
- 20 applications of existing zoning ordinances, which is
- 21 exactly what's happened here, to conform to the
- 22 comprehensive plan. Because, again, the
- 23 comprehensive plan is about recommended future uses.
- 24 It's not about regulating existing uses under
- 25 existing zoning law. So that's all I have to say

- 1 about the comprehensive plan issue.
- 2 And so the only other issue that's been
- 3 raised here relates specifically to the lodging
- 4 suites, the overnight lodging component of this
- 5 project. Again, as I gave a brief overview of what
- 6 this project is, it's an ambulatory surgery center
- 7 with, I believe it's six overnight lodging units.
- 8 And so really the basis of the objection, I think,
- 9 here is that the lodging suite portion of this
- 10 project somehow removes it from the scope of a
- 11 permissible use in a C-3 zone. And I think the
- 12 problem with this argument is, again, what's
- 13 permitted by right in a C-3 zone is a medical
- 14 facility. And that's all that this project needs to
- 15 be to be permitted by right in a C-3 zone is a
- 16 medical facility. And so these lodging suites, and
- 17 we explain this more in the City's brief, and I'll
- 18 try not to just read it out loud to you all here,
- 19 but it's all in our brief. One way you can consider
- 20 this is it's all part of the same facility, the
- 21 ambulatory surgery center, and the lodging suites,
- 22 it's all just one medical facility permitted use.
- 23 Another way to look at it is that the lodging suites
- 24 are accessory uses, which is another thing that can
- 25 accompany a primary use, in this case, an ambulatory

- 1 surgery center, and accessory uses can include
- 2 things like lodging and the like. And that's also
- 3 permitted by right. And those are the two primary
- 4 routes that we see. There's a third option that
- 5 this board could also take. If you look at the
- 6 group living use category, it provides that a
- 7 tenancy of less than 30 days is automatically deemed
- 8 a hotel or a motel use, which, if you look at the
- 9 use table, it is yet again another use that's
- 10 permitted by right in a C-3 zone.
- 11 So the City's position is that you can
- 12 take any of these three paths to approve the entire
- 13 project, including the overnight lodging suites.
- 14 And the final thing I'll say is even if you
- 15 disagreed with everything I just said, all that
- 16 means is that there's an issue with the overnight
- 17 lodging portion of this project. We don't think
- 18 there is, but, again, if the board was to disagree,
- 19 that's the only potential issue we have here. There
- 20 is no question whatsoever that the ambulatory
- 21 surgery center part of this is permitted by right in
- 22 a C-3 zone. And it's very, very clear that that
- 23 should be allowed to go forward no matter what.
- But, again, the City's position is that
- 25 even the lodging suite portion of this project fits

- 1 within the C-3 zoning. So that's all I have. I'm
- 2 happy to answer questions or we can do that later if
- 3 Mr. Feeley would prefer.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: I think that the
- 5 normal rules here lay out that, you know, we do
- 6 presentation of --
- 7 MR. ROTH: Understood. We can do
- 8 questions later. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: And then in this
- 10 case would we go to Mr. Dillon next to make
- 11 statements or would we go to Mr. Feeley?
- MR. FLEMING: You know, it might make
- 13 sense because they're on the same side, but the
- 14 order of procedure has the Appellants going next.
- MR. FEELEY: You know, just for
- 16 clarification, I actually think I'm the aggrieved
- 17 person. And I think the Applicant or the Appellant
- 18 and the Applicant is OrthoIllinois.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, no --
- 20 MR. FEELEY: I mean, it doesn't really
- 21 matter, but whatever you prefer.
- MR. FLEMING: You are clearly the
- 23 Appellant, in my opinion.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- MR. FLEMING: But if the parties want to

- 1 agree to some other order and the board is fine with
- 2 it, we can do that, but, otherwise, I think the
- 3 Appellant is up.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay. So that
- 5 would be you, Mr. Feeley.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Thank you.
- 7 A couple of points I want to bring to the
- 8 board's attention immediately, and that is, there's
- 9 this whole issue about who has the burden of proof.
- 10 You have a couple of parties here. Presumably
- 11 somebody has to prove something to you. But with
- 12 respect to that burden of proof, the aggrieved
- 13 person or the Appellant has none. We don't have to
- 14 prove anything to the board this evening. The
- 15 burden of proof with respect to the application for
- 16 the ambulatory surgery center and the lodging suites
- 17 rests a hundred percent on OrthoIllinois. That is
- 18 stated quite clearly in 2.108 of the City's zoning
- 19 code, Chapter 19.
- The Wisconsin Supreme Court has also said
- 21 in AllEnergy Corporation v. Trempealeau County, it's
- 22 a 2017 decision of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, that
- 23 the City of Beloit would have the burden of proof to
- 24 establish that all legal requirements with respect
- 25 to the zoning determination that was made in this

- 1 case have been established. So when you think about
- 2 what the result is going to be in this case, what
- 3 you're going to need to ask yourselves is has the
- 4 City proved to me, to my satisfaction, that all
- 5 legal requirements under the zoning code have been
- 6 met? And has OrthoIllinois, as the Applicant,
- 7 satisfied you that with respect to the submission of
- 8 information, have they met all the requirements to
- 9 satisfy the approval criteria under the ordinance?
- This appeal does not seek to impose an
- 11 obligation on the City of Beloit to license any
- 12 types of healthcare facilities. It does not seek to
- 13 have the City adopt that requirement. What it does
- 14 seek is a requirement that the City follow the
- ordinance that was passed by the city council on
- 16 September 20th. It's a six-page ordinance. It says
- 17 "An ordinance to create, amend and repeal various
- 18 sections of Chapter 19 of the Code of General
- 19 Ordinances of the City of Beloit pertaining to
- 20 zoning of medical facility uses."
- Chapter 19 is the relevant chapter for
- 22 purposes of what the board of appeals needs to be
- 23 considering in this case. The ordinance was
- 24 approved by the city council on September 7th.
- 25 Twenty days later -- 20 days earlier, it was

- 1 approved by the plan commission at a hearing on
- 2 August 18th. However, the plan commission made a
- 3 specific amendment that it proposed to the city
- 4 council. By changing and enacting this ordinance
- 5 the way it was proposed to the plan commission and
- 6 the city council, 265 properties in the City of
- 7 Beloit had their permitted uses as of right where
- 8 they were located in C-1 districts and CBD-1
- 9 districts had them removed. By enacting this
- 10 ordinance, it changed the permitted uses by right of
- 11 265 properties in the city, and changed them to
- 12 conditional uses. No notice was given to any of
- 13 those property owners. None were notified. None of
- 14 the requirements for the passage of this ordinance
- 15 were followed.
- 16 Twenty days to pass this ordinance. Now,
- 17 what's interesting about that is the date it was
- 18 passed. And as of the date it was passed, the City
- 19 had already been -- had applied for approvals. It
- 20 had already engaged a consultant to perform a
- 21 examination or soil testing out at the Freeman
- 22 Parkway site, and I submit to you the City knew that
- 23 and passed this ordinance, despite the fact that it
- 24 harmed 265 properties, because it wanted to favor
- 25 OrthoIllinois as a developer in this community.

- 1 That's wrong.
- 2 MR. DILLON: Object on relevance grounds.
- 3 You have no evidence to support that. You're not
- 4 going to call any witnesses from the city council.
- 5 It's inappropriate to impugn the character and the
- 6 integrity of those members who voted on this at a
- 7 public hearing.
- 8 MR. FEELEY: There are documents in the
- 9 record that show that OrthoIllinois was applying and
- 10 doing work out on the site to determine the
- 11 applicability of that property in May of 2021.
- 12 So it took 20 days to pass this.
- 13 Ultimately, President Anderson, city council
- 14 president, had a hearing at the city council on
- 15 January 18th, said, oops, we harmed 265 property
- 16 owners in the city. We took away their permitted
- 17 uses by right. We raised that issue with the City
- 18 on September 7th. We raised that issue with the
- 19 City on August 18th. It took almost five months for
- 20 the City of Beloit to correct that, and, ultimately,
- 21 they did.
- Now, one of the things that is argued in
- 23 this case, and you just heard Mr. Roth state it, is
- 24 that with respect to the lodging suites that are at
- 25 issue, there are basically three ways that the

- 1 lodging suites should be permitted. One is that
- 2 they should be considered part of the ambulatory
- 3 surgery center. Mr. Eagon here who is a department
- 4 of health services certified inspector, is going to
- 5 testify tonight that lodging suites are not a part
- 6 of an ambulatory surgery center. An ambulatory
- 7 surgery center is a distinct entity that performs
- 8 surgical services within its four walls. This
- 9 entity, the lodging suites, is not part of the ASC.
- 10 It's also not an accessory use. When Mr. Pennington
- 11 testifies, I'm going to refer him to Section 6 --
- 12 actually, 6.3 of the zoning code. That's applicable
- 13 to this decision. If it's an accessory use, it has
- 14 to meet the definition of an accessory use, which by
- 15 definition of the code, is a detached use that has
- 16 to be a minimum of six feet away from the principal
- 17 use. This is not an accessory use to an ambulatory
- 18 surgery center, and to take any position that it is,
- 19 violates the Wisconsin Statutes and the City's
- 20 ordinances. The other way that's been proposed by
- 21 my friend, Mr. Roth, or Attorney Roth here, is that
- 22 this could be considered a community living
- 23 arrangement.
- The code does define a community living
- 25 arrangement, and it's defined specifically as a

- 1 facility that's licensed, operated or permitted by
- 2 the department of health services with respect to
- 3 the definition provided under Wisconsin Statute
- 4 50.01(6d). The City ordinances that was adopted by
- 5 the city council adopts that definition. That
- 6 definition requires a residential care apartment
- 7 complex to have separate apartments, separate doors,
- 8 separate entrances, a kitchen, separate sleeping
- 9 area, separate living area, none of which the
- 10 evidence will show is in the plans for these lodging
- 11 suites that are in the record today.
- Now, the City wants you just to focus on
- 13 Section 6 of this six-page ordinance. And, in
- 14 effect, I submit to you there's definitions of an
- 15 ambulatory surgery center in here. There's a
- 16 definition of nursing home. There's a definition of
- 17 a hospice. There's a definition of community living
- 18 arrangement, but what the City would have you
- 19 believe is forget about these six pages. In fact,
- 20 just do this (indicating). This is all you need to
- 21 look at. Just the section that applies to medical
- 22 facilities. That would be error to do. You're
- 23 bound to follow the ordinance as it was enacted by
- 24 the city council, all six pages of it that apply
- 25 with respect to this zoning decision.

- 1 Now just briefly about the comprehensive
- 2 plan. I agree with Mr. Roth. I agree with
- 3 Mr. Pennington that what the state statute says is
- 4 that the comprehensive plan applies to enactments or
- 5 amendments of the zoning ordinance. However, the
- 6 state statutes set forth the minimum requirements
- 7 for comprehensive plans. What does that mean? The
- 8 City of Beloit, under its home rule powers by
- 9 statute, can choose to go beyond the minimum
- 10 requirements and place additional requirements on
- 11 the use of a comprehensive plan to guide zoning
- 12 decisions. And the evidence is going to show that
- in the City of Beloit's Comprehensive Plan, the City
- 14 adopted the plan stating that it would apply to all
- 15 land use decisions related to any private or public
- 16 development in the city of Beloit. The City has a
- 17 right to do that. That's a local option. And the
- 18 City is bound to follow its comprehensive plan. And
- 19 I submit to you that the City understands that
- 20 requirement, because, for example, the state statute
- 21 specifically says that conditional use permits do
- 22 not need to be consistent with the City plan.
- 23 However, I'm going to present examples to you where
- 24 Ms. Christensen has referred to the comprehensive
- 25 plan with respect to proposing conditional uses to

- 1 be approved by the plan commission and city council.
- 2 That's direct evidence that the City has chose to go
- 3 beyond what the state statute applies and to bind
- 4 itself to a stricter procedure.
- 5 One final point. You know, some of you I
- 6 hope remember that when you were appointed to this
- 7 body, you took an oath, and you took an oath to
- 8 follow the laws, the constitution, the ordinances of
- 9 the City of Beloit. And I hope that you take that
- 10 oath seriously and find that with respect to the
- 11 burdens that are imposed on OrthoIllinois and the
- 12 City of Beloit staff in this case, that that burden
- of proof has not been met; that the City and
- 14 OrthoIllinois are proposing that you ignore all six
- 15 pages of the ordinance except for four paragraphs
- 16 relating to medical facility, and find that there
- 17 was no authority, under the ordinances of Wisconsin
- 18 law, to permit this development. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you.
- 20 At this time, Mr. Dillon, would you like
- 21 to give an opening statement?
- 22 MR. DILLON: Yes, please. Thank you.
- 23 Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I'm
- 24 Duffy Dillon. I represent OrthoIllinois in
- 25 connection with this matter. I have represented

- 1 OrthoIllinois since about February of last year when
- 2 this body had an appeal pending before it in a
- 3 separate matter. Some of you may have been involved
- 4 in that. I'm going to keep my comments as brief as
- 5 I possibly can, because I anticipate this hearing
- 6 could go a while.
- 7 You are aware that your record already
- 8 consists of over 2,000 pages, I believe. If you
- 9 have each found time to read all of that, I commend
- 10 all of you. I assume that you have, but it's a
- 11 monumental task to do that, and I appreciate the
- 12 effort, and OrthoIllinois appreciates the effort
- 13 you're putting into this.
- 14 When we do opening statements in court, we
- 15 talk about what the evidence is going to show.
- 16 That's what I'm going to tell you now. And I follow
- 17 the K.I.S.S. principle when I'm talking to folks
- 18 about what is it we have before us here. Keep It
- 19 Simple Silly.
- 20 In this case, Mr. Pennington has already
- 21 given you the staff report. It is about as
- 22 straightforward as it can be. And what
- 23 OrthoIllinois' materials will show you, and what the
- 24 evidence will show you, is that OrthoIllinois has
- 25 been trying to get a development off the ground in

- 1 the city of Beloit for about 18 months now. And
- 2 when OrthoIllinois first came to the City of Beloit,
- 3 the City staff and OrthoIllinois went back and forth
- 4 many times for a long period of time about what
- 5 OrthoIllinois' proposed use was, because the
- 6 ordinance, at the time, did not have a perfect fit
- 7 for the proposed use. The record will reflect that.
- 8 The record will show that eventually what happened
- 9 is after Beloit Health System vehemently opposed
- 10 OrthoIllinois' efforts to locate here on Gateway
- 11 Boulevard in a commercial area on the grounds that
- 12 it constituted a hospital use under the old
- 13 ordinance. And after Beloit Health System commenced
- 14 an appeal of City staff's decision that
- 15 OrthoIllinois could locate on Gateway Boulevard,
- 16 OrthoIllinois decided to pull its application for
- 17 that property. The reason being, Beloit Health
- 18 System was arguing this use under the old version of
- 19 the ordinance constituted a hospital use. And
- 20 instead of wasting more City staff time and
- 21 embroiling the City in litigation and facing an
- 22 uncertain determination, because, as this board
- 23 probably knows, Beloit Health System can appeal this
- 24 body's decision to the Circuit Court of Rock County.
- 25 OrthoIllinois decided discretion is a better part of

- 1 valor. Instead of sticking with this property where
- 2 we know Beloit Health System is going to object and
- 3 continue fighting this tooth and nail until the end,
- 4 let's go find property that's already zoned for
- 5 hospital uses, because if we do that, that's what
- 6 Beloit Health System has been saying all along, that
- 7 this would be a hospital use. Let's take their
- 8 argument into account. Let's go find hospital-zoned
- 9 property and locate there.
- 10 You'll hear from Anthony Brown, CEO of
- 11 OrthoIllinois, that OrthoIllinois embarked on an
- 12 effort in that regard and found the subject property
- 13 that we're dealing with now that is zoned C-3, has
- 14 been zoned C-3 for over 20 years, as far as we can
- 15 tell, and always has been carrying that zoning and
- 16 could have allowed hospital use as a matter of right
- 17 before the ordinance was amended.
- You will hear that OrthoIllinois, when the
- 19 city council was considering amending the ordinance,
- 20 OrthoIllinois submitted a written submission to the
- 21 city council saying we already are under contract
- 22 with property that is zoned for hospital use, so we
- 23 support the zoning amendment. We believe our use is
- 24 going to be permitted under the old ordinance or the
- 25 new, regardless of whether you change the ordinance.

- 1 The reason being, OrthoIllinois had no way to know
- 2 if this ordinance was going to be changed, and so
- 3 had to rely upon the old ordinance as it was, and
- 4 made its decisions in that regard.
- Now, turning to the issue before you. The
- 6 issue before you is simple. The issue before you is
- 7 what is the current zoning of OrthoIllinois'
- 8 property, and is the proposed use allowed on the
- 9 property under the zoning ordinance? The answer to
- 10 those questions is, it's zoned C-3. The ordinance
- 11 was just amended by the city council to allow
- 12 ambulatory surgery centers -- surgical centers and
- 13 medical facilities. What OrthoIllinois has proposed
- 14 to do is unquestionably an ambulatory surgery
- 15 center. Unquestionably an ambulatory surgery
- 16 center. The evidence will show OrthoIllinois
- 17 already operates an ambulatory surgery center in
- 18 Rockford. No dispute about that. There are no
- 19 overnight stay rooms at the surgery center in
- 20 Rockford, but they are operating an ambulatory
- 21 surgery center in Rockford now. This is an entity
- 22 that knows how to operate an ambulatory surgery
- 23 center and knows what one is.
- 24 The evidence will show that for this
- 25 project, OrthoIllinois intends to operate an

- 1 ambulatory surgery center on the subject property.
- 2 It's going to do that under an entity that it has
- 3 formed, and that entity will be the distinct entity
- 4 that performs the surgeries and does provide all
- 5 that care.
- If OrthoIllinois was not proposing to have
- 7 some overnight stay capabilities for this project,
- 8 there would be no basis for Beloit Health System to
- 9 appeal. And I would submit to you that the appeal
- 10 has no basis in law or fact, and I think this body
- 11 would make quick work of that. And we have tried,
- 12 prior to today, to stipulate with Beloit Health
- 13 System that if we did not have these overnight stay
- 14 rooms involved, that there be would no basis for an
- 15 appeal; in other words, this would be an ambulatory
- 16 surgery center, and we would not be here tonight.
- 17 We have not been successful in getting a stipulation
- 18 in that regard, so we will see what the evidence is
- 19 tonight.
- That said, the arguments that we are
- 21 hearing from Beloit Hospital and from the other
- 22 aggrieved party, is not that what OrthoIllinois
- 23 intends to do does not consistent of an ambulatory
- 24 surgery center. Instead, what they are arguing, is
- 25 because there are overnight stay rooms that could be

- 1 used in some way in this facility, again, as
- 2 Mr. Roth said, that's what takes this away from an
- 3 ambulatory surgery and turns into something
- 4 different. The responses to that are, no, it does
- 5 not.
- Number one, the evidence is going to show
- 7 that those overnight stay rooms -- well, the
- 8 evidence will show you that Medicare has some
- 9 significant regulations that apply to ambulatory
- 10 surgery centers. And for OrthoIllinois,
- 11 OrthoIllinois could operate an ambulatory surgery
- 12 center without being Medicare accredited, but it
- 13 would not be paid by Medicare to do any surgeries.
- 14 So most ambulatory surgery centers get accredited
- 15 with Medicare. If you are accredited with Medicare,
- 16 Medicare can pull your accreditation if you stray
- 17 from what its rules are, which are you must be a
- 18 distinct entity; you must do discharges within
- 19 24 hours. You cannot stray from those rules.
- 20 OrthoIllinois has no intention to violate those
- 21 rules, and it will be complying with those rules.
- 22 You will hear evidence that with regard to
- 23 these overnight stay suites, first of all, the
- 24 record shows initially when OrthoIllinois applied in
- 25 early September for this, the plan was to have these

- 1 be nursing suites, and the plan for OrthoIllinois
- 2 was to license those as a nursing home because there
- 3 will be a small amount of care provided there, and
- 4 that should be regulated in some form or fashion.
- 5 And OrthoIllinois received advice from a consultant
- 6 saying do it as a nursing home. That application
- 7 was made. The record shows DHS came back and said,
- 8 sorry, there are no beds available for this type of
- 9 use. And so OrthoIllinois realized at that point
- 10 this isn't going to be possible. We can't go under
- 11 that approach with these overnight suites. So
- 12 OrthoIllinois switched gears and said, "What other
- 13 ways can we do this?" A consultant recommended you
- 14 could register these as residential care apartment
- 15 complexes, register those with the State. Register
- 16 them with a separate entity, and those should be
- 17 okay. And we have identified, in the zoning
- 18 ordinance, what OrthoIllinois believes is a
- 19 correct -- that that is a permissible use on this
- 20 property as well. We'll get into that as the
- 21 evidence gets put in.
- 22 But the point that I want to emphasize to
- 23 this body is just this: OrthoIllinois does not
- 24 intend to have overnight stays unless and until the
- 25 state approves that RCAC use, residential care

- 1 apartment complex use. It's going to do it through
- 2 a separate entity, but it's not going to do anything
- 3 with those rooms unless and until that use is
- 4 approved. So what does that mean? What that means
- 5 is, OrthoIllinois is ready to go forward with this
- 6 project as an ASC and only being as an ASC, and the
- 7 RCAC registration does not happen for a while, and
- 8 once it happens, if it's not approved, OrthoIllinois
- 9 is not going to be violating the law by putting
- 10 another use on its property that the state could
- 11 come in and find a violation. So what this zoning
- 12 or this appeal amounts to, it's not a debate about
- 13 the ASC and what the use is going to be. The ASC is
- 14 clearly an ASC. It's clearly a medical facility.
- 15 And there are no rules and regulations that dictate
- 16 that OrthoIllinois cannot build overnight stay rooms
- 17 there and choose not to use those rooms down the
- 18 road as part of its facility, just as people can
- 19 build a house with extra closets or a 10-bedroom
- 20 house, or 20-bedroom house. OrthoIllinois can build
- 21 a building however it looks. The question is, what
- 22 is the use? The use here will be for an ambulatory
- 23 surgery center. That's clearly permitted. And,
- 24 again, if that were the only use that we were
- 25 putting this property to, there would be no appeal

- 1 here.
- 2 So what does this appeal amount to? This
- 3 appeal amounts to speculation by Beloit Health
- 4 System about what this other use is going to be that
- 5 is uninformed, and as Mr. Feeley said, they are
- 6 asking us to prove what those uses are. And we're
- 7 prepared to do that. But those uses will not be
- 8 violating the zoning ordinance. And if we had a
- 9 stipulation from Beloit Health System that the ASC
- 10 use is a permitted use as the ordinance says, I
- 11 don't think this body would have much heartburn
- 12 about any of these issues.
- Now, the last thing I want to say
- 14 here is that we do anticipate that based on Beloit
- 15 Health System's pre-hearing filings, Beloit Health
- 16 System apparently wants to make a big deal out of
- 17 the fact that the comprehensive plan, in its view,
- 18 is inconsistent with this use. You've already heard
- 19 from Mr. Roth, and we agree, the comprehensive plan
- 20 has no relevance to this body's decisions. This
- 21 body is charged, by statute, to enforce the
- 22 ordinance as written. The city council is the body
- 23 in the City of Beloit that sets policy here. This
- 24 body sits as a quasi-judicial body. You are the
- 25 proverbial umpire calling balls and strikes. What

- 1 does the ordinance say? Does this meet the
- 2 ordinance? If it meets the ordinance, it goes
- 3 forward. It clearly meets the ordinance, and we
- 4 will establish that. But I do want to mention,
- 5 because Beloit Health System apparently is intent on
- 6 relying on the plan as being a central issue for
- 7 this body to consider, I anticipate this body will
- 8 be fielding multiple objections. And we're not
- 9 going to be objecting to this body because we want
- 10 to be difficult or we want to prolong these
- 11 proceedings. In fact, it's quite the opposite. To
- 12 the extent that I object during these proceedings,
- 13 it will be because I believe the evidence that's
- 14 being presented to you is so far out of bounds and
- 15 so irrelevant, that to consider it would be a waste
- of this body's time and the public's time as a
- 17 result.
- 18 Thank you very much. We look forward
- 19 to presenting our case.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you.
- 21 At this time we will move on to the City
- 22 staff's case in chief, please.
- 23 MR. ROTH: The City intends to rest on the
- 24 testimony that Mr. Pennington gave and the evidence
- 25 that he presented in the staff report. I anticipate

- 1 there will be additional testimony that Ortho
- 2 presents from its witnesses and then Beloit will
- 3 present its own witnesses, but the City does not
- 4 intend to call any additional witnesses beyond what
- 5 Mr. Pennington has already presented to the board
- 6 regarding the staff report.
- 7 So if this is the time for the board to
- 8 ask Mr. Pennington questions, I guess that makes
- 9 sense, but I don't intend to present anything else,
- 10 nor do I believe Mr. Pennington does.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Thank you.
- So, yeah, then, I believe it would be
- 13 appropriate at this time to ask questions, for board
- 14 members to ask questions.
- MR. FLEMING: Yeah, the first thing I want
- 16 to check was, and it was entered as part of staff's
- 17 opening statement. I'm not sure Mr. Pennington was
- 18 sworn in. Would the parties stipulate that the
- 19 staff report presentation stand as sworn testimony
- 20 or would you like to swear Mr. Pennington in?
- MR. FEELEY: Yeah, we'll stipulate to
- 22 that, and he can simply be sworn in then for any
- 23 further examination.
- 24 MR. FLEMING: Okay. So his previous
- 25 reading will be accepted as sworn testimony?

- 1 MR. FEELEY: Yes, we stipulate to that.
- MR. DILLON: For the record, we do as
- 3 well.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Thank you.
- 5 Yeah, so I guess now we would move to
- 6 questions by the board.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Any questions from
- 8 the board at this time? Mr. Petersen?
- 9 MR. PETERSEN: I have a question. So Drew
- 10 just confirmed it's zoned C-3. It has been zoned
- 11 for 21 years plus the 16 years since the place
- 12 burned down.
- MR. PENNINGTON: Correct.
- 14 MR. PETERSEN: The zoning standards for
- 15 this specific piece of property have not changed
- 16 whatsoever?
- 17 MR. PENNINGTON: Correct.
- MR. PETERSEN: And you did notify all the
- 19 relevant neighbors to the property within 150 feet
- 20 of the plan, and all that was done, right? All the
- 21 procedural items were taken care of to make sure it
- 22 was done, correct?
- 23 MR. PENNINGTON: Correct. I believe it
- 24 was 200 feet from the land management plan, but,
- 25 yes.

- 1 MR. PETERSEN: I know it was a certain
- 2 distance. So procedurally you took care of those
- 3 things?
- 4 MR. PENNINGTON: Yes.
- 5 MR. PETERSEN: Okay. I have nothing
- 6 further.
- 7 MR. BAKER: I have nothing.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Anyone else?
- 9 (No further questions were
- 10 asked.)
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: At this time I
- 12 believe we move on to cross-examination of
- 13 Mr. Pennington, and so, therefore, if we want to
- 14 begin -- do we want to go in the same order as the
- 15 opening statements?
- MR. FLEMING: We usually would keep it in
- 17 the same order, yes.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay. And so we
- 19 will begin then with Mr. Feeley, if he would care to
- 20 cross-examine Mr. Pennington at this time.
- MR. FEELEY: Has he been placed under
- 22 oath?
- 23 MR. FLEMING: Oh, we can do that now.
- MR. FEELEY: Before I begin, do the other
- 25 parties have their book of exhibits to provide to

- 1 the witness?
- MR. ROTH: So how do you want to do this?
- 3 I mean, if you want to use the City record,
- 4 document, do you want me to give it to him? And if
- 5 you want to use an Ortho document, do you want Duffy
- 6 to give it to him? And if you want to use one of
- 7 yours, you're going to give it to him? Is that how
- 8 you want to handle it?
- 9 MR. FEELEY: Yeah, I thought the
- 10 agreement, I mean, we can do it that way, but I
- 11 copied all my exhibits and put it them in the binder
- 12 so the witness can just refer to the exhibit in the
- 13 binders. And I actually thought that's what we had
- 14 discussed, but --
- MR. ROTH: We can do that, sure, if you
- 16 have a copy of the exhibits printed.
- MR. FEELEY: Just mine, though.
- 18 MR. ROTH: Is that our record?
- 19 MR. FEELEY: No, those are the exhibits
- 20 that were --
- MR. DILLON: I have the complete record.
- 22 I'll hand it to the witness.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: If you do that,
- 24 will you, like, tell us what page it is?
- MR. FEELEY: Yeah, I'll refer you to the

- 1 exact page.
- 2 MR. DILLON: One clarification. I did
- 3 pull OrthoIllinois' proposed findings out of here,
- 4 but I trust you're not going to be referencing
- 5 those. The page numbers are here (indicating).
- 6 MR. PENNINGTON: Thank you. I appreciate
- 7 it.
- 8 MR. FEELEY: So what exactly are these?
- 9 MR. DILLON: It's the entire record.
- 10 MR. FEELEY: The City's record or Beloit
- 11 Health System's exhibits?
- MR. DILLON: It's a copy of page 1 through
- 13 2000-whatever.
- MR. FEELEY: Everything?
- MR. DILLON: Correct.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay. So where do you --
- 17 MR. DILLON: They're paginated, and the
- 18 spines have the page numbers on them. So I think
- 19 you can probably direct him to page numbers if you
- 20 have those.
- 21 DREW PENNINGTON,
- 22 having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 23 testified as follows:

24

25

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 3 Q. With respect -- so with respect to your
- 4 staff report, Mr. Pennington, and this is a
- 5 follow-up to a question that was just made by
- 6 Mr. Petersen. The only notification that you
- 7 provided to landowners in the area related to the
- 8 land management plan; is that correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And the only information that would have
- 11 been provided to a landowner by the land management
- 12 plan would have related to -- or would have involved
- or referenced the eight-inch native prairie grasses
- 14 that were being proposed to be grown on the
- 15 property?
- 16 A. That and it also would have included a
- 17 copy of the landscape plan.
- 18 Q. Now, if you would, I'd like to refer you
- 19 to Document 465, which is City Ordinance No. 3719 in
- 20 the record.
- 21 A. So you're referring to Duffy's?
- 22 Q. Yeah, so I'm referring to --
- 23 A. 465.
- 24 Q. -- the actual -- the actual administrative
- 25 record --

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. Page No. City 465.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. And you'll recognize this as Ordinance
- 5 No. 3719; is that correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. And this ordinance, on page 3, Section 6,
- 8 constitutes an amendment to Section 11 of
- 9 Chapter 19; is that correct?
- 10 A. Section 3, amending the use table?
- 11 Q. No. Section 6 on page 3 --
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. -- deals with medical facilities, correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. And that Section 6 actually amended a
- 16 definition in Section 11 of the zoning code,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Correct. Yep.
- 19 O. And this sets forward -- this sets forward
- 20 the characteristics of medical facility accessory
- 21 uses, provides some examples and some exceptions; is
- 22 that correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Now, when you get an application in your
- 25 capacity as a -- the zoning officer for the City of

- 1 Beloit, you're obligated to follow all of the City
- 2 ordinances; is that correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. And all of the provisions of Chapter 19 of
- 5 the City's ordinances, correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. So you're not just bound by this
- 8 definition of medical facilities?
- 9 A. This definition is part of the zoning
- 10 ordinance, so yes.
- 11 Q. Correct. Correct.
- Now, this zoning ordinance provided
- 13 additional definitions for the examples listed in
- 14 D-3; is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And do you know why those examples, those
- 17 additional examples, were more particularly defined
- 18 in this ordinance?
- MR. DILLON: Objection. You're asking to
- 20 give a legal conclusion.
- 21 MR. FEELEY: I'm asking him if he knows.
- THE WITNESS: The purpose of this
- 23 ordinance was to provide clarity. So as part of
- 24 that effort, definitions were provided.
- 25 BY MR. FEELEY:

- 1 Q. And it's relevant to your determination,
- 2 for example, if OrthoIllinois proposed an ambulatory
- 3 surgery center, that you would review and determine
- 4 whether or not it met the definition of an
- 5 ambulatory surgery center as defined in the
- 6 ordinance, correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. And same thing with respect to a nursing
- 9 home; is that correct?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. And you heard OrthoIllinois in their
- 12 opening statement indicate that initially
- 13 OrthoIllinois' intent with respect to the
- 14 application was to build a nursing home attached to
- an ambulatory surgery center; is that correct?
- 16 A. That's what he stated, yeah.
- 17 Q. And that was also, in fact, on the
- 18 applications that were submitted to the City of
- 19 Beloit in September of 2021, correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. It listed both of those uses?
- 22 A. If you want to refer me to the exact
- 23 application, I'd be happy to look at it, but I think
- 24 more or less, yes.
- Q. Well, take a look at City 012.

- 1 A. Okay.
- Q. Okay. And that should be the City of
- 3 Beloit application for an architectural review
- 4 application; is that correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. You've seen that document before?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And in the description, under five of that
- 9 document, it references a 26,571 gross total square
- 10 foot ambulatory surgery center. The ambulatory
- 11 surgery center is itself 20,426 square feet, and the
- 12 remaining square footage is a nursing suite; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. And if you look at City 014, that's the
- 16 site plan review application; is that correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- Q. And that states, in No. 8, a new nursing
- 19 home attached to a new ambulatory surgery center,
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. So it's a true statement that for purposes
- 23 of these applications, you needed to review the
- 24 ordinance and as well, focus on the definitions of
- 25 ambulatory surgery center and nursing home as

- 1 adopted by the city council; is that correct?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. So it's not just a matter of looking at
- 4 medical facility. You have to apply the additional
- 5 definitions in this ordinance if they are relevant
- 6 to the application that's being submitted?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Now, No. 8 on the site plan review
- 9 application requires the Applicant to describe all
- 10 of the proposed uses for this property. Are you
- 11 aware of any application that was submitted to the
- 12 City of Beloit by OrthoIllinois for an accessory use
- 13 for six lodging suites?
- 14 A. Yes. This application is associated with
- 15 a set of plans. It's referred to on the
- 16 application, the development plans. Their
- 17 development plans do reference an accessory use.
- 18 Q. And are you talking about the development
- 19 plans that show a drawing of the building with
- 20 ambulatory surgery center and sleeping unit on one
- 21 half, and sleeping unit on the other?
- 22 A. Correct, the site plan.
- 23 Q. The site plan. So it's not necessary to
- 24 include all the uses that are being proposed on an
- 25 application; is that correct?

- 1 A. Correct. It wouldn't be practical to list
- 2 every possible use.
- 3 Q. Can you -- can you point us to any
- 4 document in the record that references an accessory
- 5 use by name?
- 6 A. Sure. So let's find the site plan, the
- 7 approved site plan.
- 8 Q. I'm asking if there's specific language
- 9 that says accessory use.
- 10 A. Yes, the cover sheet for the site plan
- 11 used that exact language.
- 12 Q. Okay. So the site plan, I believe --
- MR. PETERSEN: Can we have a pause real
- 14 quick, because we're having a problem.
- 15 MS. ADAMS: I can't find -- I mean, it
- isn't the same number as it is in the 2,000-page
- 17 document.
- MR. DILLON: Tim, if I may help.
- 19 MR. FEELEY: Sure.
- MR. DILLON: The City's Bates' numbered --
- 21 the City's Bates' numbered everything in the lower
- 22 right-hand corner in the agenda packet. And those
- 23 numbers do not match up necessarily. Like City's 14
- 24 is Bates-numbered 71 in the agenda packet. So the
- 25 members, I'm sure, are looking at the agenda packet

- 1 to get their pagination. So if you'd refer to those
- 2 numbers instead of the Bates' numbers that the
- 3 parties supplied, it would help out. That confused
- 4 me as well.
- 5 MS. CHRISTENSEN: Susan, if you open the
- 6 official record tab off of the web site --
- 7 MR. FLEMING: Hold on, please. We're
- 8 trying to --
- 9 MS. ADAMS: I'll find it. Thank you.
- 10 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 11 Q. Just to help you out, Mr. Pennington,
- 12 there's a set of drawings related to the site plan
- 13 at City 061, and the approved site plans, I believe,
- 14 are at City 431.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 THE WITNESS: So, Susan, we're
- 17 approximately around page 445.
- MS. ADAMS: Okay. Thanks.
- 19 THE WITNESS: All right. So I'm on
- 20 City -- I'm on the cover page for the site plan. So
- 21 your question is?
- 22 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Can you point out to us on that site plan
- 24 where it lists an accessory use?
- 25 A. So this is the cover page for the site

- 1 plan. It reads, "OrthoWisconsin Medical Facility
- 2 With Accessory Use."
- 3 Q. Okay.
- 4 A. That is the beginning. That's the cover
- 5 sheet of the site plans.
- Q. And what do you understand to be the
- 7 accessory use?
- 8 A. So I'm going to find the architectural
- 9 site plan. So if you're looking at the site plan,
- 10 let's take a look at C200, for example. And this is
- 11 not the approved site plan, but it's fine for our
- 12 purposes. C200 of the civil site plan, the building
- is configured in a way where the northern two-thirds
- 14 or more is the ASC, and then the southern -- the
- 15 southwest third is the -- are the suites. The final
- 16 approved site plan, which we should find for the
- 17 record, labels these two areas, the ASC and the
- 18 sleeping suites.
- 19 Q. As you understand it, can you point out on
- 20 the site plan drawings that portion of the
- 21 development that's an accessory use so the board
- 22 understands?
- 23 A. Sure. What's -- I mean, tell me where you
- 24 want me to go. I'm your witness. If you can point
- 25 me to the approved site plan, I'll show you, but

- 1 just for our purposes now, this (indicating).
- 2 Q. And did you understand those lodging
- 3 suites to be separate from the ambulatory surgery
- 4 center?
- 5 A. They have doors. They are not able to
- 6 stay indoors walking from the ASC into the suites.
- 7 There are doors.
- 8 Q. So explain to the board what were the
- 9 lodging suites -- what was the use that was approved
- 10 for the lodging suites.
- 11 A. So it's -- we've got two options. And the
- 12 reason I say "options" is because I can't predict
- 13 who is going to be receiving surgery in this
- 14 facility, but one option is that it's folks who are
- in the ASC, discharged, and then remain on-site in
- 16 these suites for an overnight. That is a permitted
- 17 use. The other alternative is that it's folks who
- 18 may just want the convenience of staying there.
- 19 Again, staff can't predict which it's going to be.
- 20 It's purely hypothetical. So both of those are
- 21 evaluated to see if they are permitted uses, which
- 22 they are.
- Q. And with respect to your first example,
- 24 permitted use. What is the permitted use?
- 25 A. The permitted use is an ambulatory surgery

- 1 center with suites attached to it, either nursing
- 2 suites or simply lodging suites.
- 3 Q. And correct me if I'm wrong, but
- 4 presumably you're bound by the use tables, correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- Q. And the use tables set out, in detail, the
- 7 types of uses that are permitted in various zoning
- 8 districts, correct?
- 9 A. Mm-hmm.
- 10 Q. And so my question is, in the use table,
- 11 what is -- what is the first option use with respect
- 12 to the lodging suites? There's no definition in the
- 13 zoning code about nursing suites, correct?
- 14 A. The principal use is the ambulatory
- 15 surgery center.
- Q. Okay. And so did you approve then the
- 17 lodging suites as an accessory use?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And define for us what is the accessory
- 20 use?
- 21 A. They are rooms that contribute to the
- 22 convenience, comfort, et cetera of people using the
- 23 principal use. So it's an approved accessory use to
- 24 that principal use.
- Q. And isn't it true under the City's

- 1 ordinances that accessory uses have to be detached?
- 2 A. I would say that that is not accurate. It
- 3 is a convoluted definition for sure, but there are
- 4 lots of accessory uses that are attached, for
- 5 example, garages.
- Q. You don't have authority in your capacity
- 7 to ignore provisions of the zoning ordinance,
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. I'm not suggesting I've ignored anything.
- 10 Q. Okay. But my question is, you don't have
- 11 the authority to ignore any part of the zoning
- 12 ordinance?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. And could you turn to OrthoIllinois
- 15 Exhibit No. 17?
- 16 A. Well, can you direct me to the page you're
- 17 referring to?
- 18 Q. Sure. Certainly. Certainly, sir. OI
- 19 799.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. Let me know when you have it.
- 22 MR. FLEMING: If I can, just for purposes
- 23 of the record, I mean, are -- we're all going off
- 24 some different things, but I think somebody is
- 25 always going off of what is the packet, the

- 1 2,000-page agenda. Could we consistently refer to
- 2 that packet, that number as well just so there's
- 3 some consistency in the record? And it would make
- 4 it easier for me to find --
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Yeah, so I have to say about
- 6 that, that all of these documents were Bates'
- 7 stamped when they were submitted, and there was
- 8 not -- I mean, I did not check the records to see if
- 9 they changed, because there was no notice that they
- 10 had.
- MR. FLEMING: Right. No, the Bates stamps
- 12 are still there --
- MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- MR. FLEMING: -- but they've been put into
- 15 a single document that is being called the record,
- 16 and I understand there's stipulations. So we have
- 17 one single document set, and so, you know, that is
- 18 all put together as a PDF. We're all accessing it
- 19 electronically except for the witness. And so I
- 20 just think it helps for clarity and everyone
- 21 following along if we know where that is in that
- 22 document set, because that's what I understand will
- 23 be going in in terms of exhibits into the record.
- 24 MR. FEELEY: And I understand that. I'll
- 25 try to do that. I'm just explaining why I'm using

- 1 the numbers that I'm using.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Understood.
- MR. DILLON: And, Counsel, we're happy to
- 4 point out that number if you ask us.
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Yeah, okay.
- 6 MR. DILLON: We can do that.
- 7 MR. FEELEY: Thank you, Duffy. I
- 8 appreciate that.
- 9 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 10 Q. So you have the page. And it deals with
- 11 6.3, accessory uses, buildings and structures. Do
- 12 you see that?
- 13 A. Mm-hmm. Yep.
- Q. And you're obligated to follow this
- 15 ordinance, correct --
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. -- this provision of the ordinance?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. And you'd agree with me that it says "the
- 20 standards of this section shall apply to all
- 21 accessory uses, buildings and structures, unless
- 22 otherwise expressly stated." Do you see that?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. And if you go roughly three pages to OI
- 25 802, and up at the top "C," you see separation, a

- 1 minimum distance of six feet shall be separate,
- 2 shall separate detached accessory buildings from all
- 3 other on-site accessory or principal buildings or
- 4 structures. Do you see that?
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 Q. The accessory use that you just described
- 7 in your testimony a couple of minutes ago, is not
- 8 consistent with this part of the ordinance, is it?
- 9 A. If you look at the prior page, it lists
- 10 table of accessory uses. So I'm looking at OI 801.
- 11 The very first accessory use listed is attached
- 12 accessory structure. The most common accessory
- 13 structure in the City is a garage. Attached --
- 14 accessory uses are allowed to be attached to
- 15 principal uses, because the separation of six feet
- 16 is referring to a detached accessory building like a
- 17 shed.
- Q. And it says right above that, "accessory
- 19 uses in residential PLI or DH zoning districts shall
- 20 be subject to the minimum setback standards of the
- 21 underlying zoning district except as modified by the
- 22 following standards," correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- 24 Q. This is not -- it doesn't have any -- this
- 25 development is not in a residential district, is it?

- 1 A. It's not.
- Q. It's not in a PLI district, is it?
- 3 A. It's not.
- 4 Q. It's not in a DH zoning district, is it?
- 5 A. I think we all know it's zoned C-3.
- 6 Q. Okay. That doesn't apply?
- 7 A. This does not apply. What applies is the
- 8 list of accessory uses for a medical facility.
- 9 Q. Okay. And we'll get to that.
- Now, if you would, can you go to page
- 11 875?
- 12 A. So OI 875?
- 13 Q. Yes, sir.
- 14 THE WITNESS: And, Board Member Adams, I'm
- 15 at 1966.
- MS. ADAMS: Okay. Thank you.
- 17 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 18 Q. And this is Section 11.3. It defines
- 19 words and terms; is that correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. And you were bound by these general words
- 22 and terms in this Section 11.3 as well, correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And do you see in 11.3.3, accessory
- 25 building or use, and then four, A through D, are

- 1 listed; is that correct?
- 2 A. Correct.
- Q. And it's a true statement, is it not, that
- 4 to be an accessory building or use under this
- 5 definition, you have to meet A, B, C and D, correct?
- 6 A. For an accessory building, yes.
- 7 Q. Well, it says "accessory building or use,"
- 8 doesn't it?
- 9 A. It does.
- 10 Q. So it's for an accessory building or use,
- 11 not just an accessory building?
- 12 A. So going back to my prior example, the
- 13 most common accessory use in the City of Beloit is
- 14 an attached garage. It would be preposterous to
- 15 suggest that you couldn't build an attached garage
- 16 in the City of Beloit.
- 17 Q. And I understand you have an opinion, but
- 18 you're bound to follow the ordinance, correct? You
- 19 don't have any authority to choose which ordinance
- 20 provisions to follow; is that correct?
- MR. ROTH: I'll object. This is just
- 22 augmentative with the witness. I'd ask that we move
- 23 on to other factual questions.
- 24 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 25 Q. This definition requires --

- 1 MR. FLEMING: Hold on there's been an
- 2 objection. The Chair has to rule. I mean -- could
- 3 you restate the objection?
- 4 MR. ROTH: He's arguing with the witness.
- 5 I mean, he hasn't asked a question. It's a point
- 6 he's made multiple times. He's just arguing with
- 7 the witness.
- 8 MR. FLEMING: I guess my question would
- 9 be, I mean, we've kind of gone on, you know, the
- 10 ordinances are what they are. I'm not sure the
- 11 degree to which you need witnesses testifying to
- 12 what the law says. Do you not -- lawyers argue --
- 13 argue the law, and witnesses testify as to facts.
- 14 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 15 Q. The lodging suites were not detached.
- 16 Let's leave it at that. Is that correct?
- 17 MR. DILLON: Objection. That calls for a
- 18 legal conclusion as to what detached means as used
- 19 in this ordinance.
- 20 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 21 Q. Did you understand that the lodging suites
- 22 were detached from the ambulatory surgery center
- 23 when you approved it?
- 24 A. The lodging suites are attached to the
- 25 ASC.

- 1 Q. Okay. Do you recall having communications
- 2 with a Lynn Wallace at the Department of Health
- 3 Services?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And what -- can you describe for the board
- 6 what was the nature of the communications?
- 7 A. Sure. Ms. Wallace received a plan
- 8 submittal from OrthoIllinois and then responded to
- 9 that with a letter with questions regarding what
- 10 type of license they, in fact, intended to pursue.
- I was copied on that correspondence, and I also
- 12 separately e-mailed Ms. Wallace for my own
- 13 clarification on what exactly the Department of
- 14 Health Services needed to review in terms of
- 15 building plans versus DSPS.
- Q. And you knew, however, though, in
- 17 Ordinance No. 3719, and based on the application,
- 18 that if OrthoIllinois wanted to construct a nursing
- 19 home, the City's definition required that nursing
- 20 home to be licensed; is that correct?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. So the City had an interest in knowing
- 23 whether or not DHS was going to license the
- 24 facility?
- 25 A. Correct.

- 1 Q. And, in fact, until you determined whether
- 2 or not that was the case, you did not issue any
- 3 approval?
- 4 A. The site plan review was open and ongoing
- 5 during my communication with Ms. Wallace.
- 6 Q. But you didn't approve the development
- 7 until OrthoIllinois withdrew its application to have
- 8 a nursing home approved on the property?
- 9 A. It was not relevant to the timeline. The
- 10 site plans weren't approved until much later.
- 11 Q. You issued the zoning certificate of
- 12 compliance on January 14th?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 0. 2022?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 O. And OrthoIllinois withdrew their
- 17 application for a nursing home on December 15, 2021?
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 O. Is that true?
- 20 A. Mr. Feeley, you need to direct me to
- 21 exhibits if I'm going to answer these questions.
- Q. This is City Bates-stamped page 417.
- 23 A. 474.
- Q. Just so I can help, where does it say 474
- 25 on the document?

- 1 MR. PETERSEN: Official City record,
- 2 right?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Lower right corner of what's
- 4 posted on the web site.
- 5 MR. FEELEY: It's not on the actual --
- 6 MR. ROTH: Yeah, because Julie's accessing
- 7 the specific record document. We're having some
- 8 nomenclature issues here.
- 9 MS. CHRISTENSEN: 417 or he's saying 474
- 10 of the whole event packet?
- MR. ROTH: That's the question.
- 12 Mr. Feeley is referring to the City number, whereas
- other folks are looking at the entire 2,000-page
- 14 exhibit.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: I'm trying to just bring
- 16 everything up then.
- MR. ROTH: I think that's a conglomeration
- 18 of everything, including the DHS, the City, Ortho.
- 19 So I don't know if it would be helpful to pull that
- 20 up, that 2,000-page document.
- 21 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 22 Q. I'm sorry, Mr. Pennington, do you have
- 23 that document?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And in that -- that document is a part of
- 2 the record that you submitted to the board of
- 3 appeals; is that correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. So this would show, and I'm sorry, I was
- 6 off by a day. This would show that OrthoIllinois
- 7 advised Department of Health Services that it was
- 8 withdrawing their application for a skilled nursing
- 9 suite home; is that correct?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. And are you aware at all of any change to
- 12 the site plans with respect to the layout of the
- 13 lodging rooms that changed as a result of
- 14 OrthoIllinois withdrawing their application to have
- 15 the lodging suites licensed as a nursing home?
- 16 A. The layout of the site?
- 17 Q. No, no, the layout, the floor plan of
- 18 the -- of the lodging rooms?
- 19 A. But, Mr. Feeley, that's not my job. My
- 20 job is not to review the floor plans. That is what
- 21 Mr. Eagon is here to testify about.
- 22 Q. So you're not aware of anything?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. So you mentioned at first it could
- 25 be an accessory use, and I've asked you some

- 1 questions about that. And the other option is that
- 2 it is a permitted use; is that correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. And your opinion, so to speak, on that is
- 5 that it would be part of the ambulatory surgery
- 6 center?
- 7 A. Correct. Yeah.
- 8 Q. And does it affect your opinion at all
- 9 that the City's definition of ambulatory surgery
- 10 center defines an ambulatory surgery center as a
- 11 distinct entity?
- 12 A. No. It's not the City's role to license
- 13 ambulatory surgery centers.
- Q. Okay. And I just wanted to know if it
- 15 changed your opinion.
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Did you have a conversation with
- 18 Mr. Eagon -- first of all, who is -- what is
- 19 Mr. Eagon's relationship to the City of Beloit?
- 20 A. Mr. Eagon is an independent consultant
- 21 that is authorized by the State Department of Safety
- 22 and Professional Services, DSPS, to do building plan
- 23 reviews for the City of Beloit as well as other
- 24 municipalities.
- Q. And under Chapter 19, a building permit

- 1 cannot be issued until you issue a certificate of
- 2 zoning compliance as to the use, correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. And did you have a conversation with
- 5 Mr. Eagon about the fact that OrthoIllinois was
- 6 proposing to have the six-room lodging -- six
- 7 lodging rooms licensed as a nursing home?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Did you have a conversation with Mr. Eagon
- 10 about the fact that OrthoIllinois believed the six
- 11 lodging rooms should be licensed as a residential
- 12 care apartment complex?
- 13 A. I didn't have any conversations with him
- 14 about licensing issues at all.
- 15 Q. Did you have any conversations with him at
- 16 all about this development?
- 17 A. I did tell him that he would be receiving
- 18 a new submittal, and what I mean by new submittal
- 19 is, he was familiar with the project from the prior
- 20 site on Gateway Boulevard.
- 21 Q. Do you agree with me that the six lodging
- 22 rooms are separate from the ambulatory surgery
- 23 center?
- MR. DILLON: Objection. Vaque.
- MR. FEELEY: Let me restate that.

- 1 MR. GRONAU: Excuse me -- excuse me -- I'd
- 2 like to set a motion to the board to have
- 3 Mr. Fleming act as our examiner for us since there
- 4 are so many objections.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: I think we have a
- 6 motion. Is there a second from another board
- 7 member?
- 8 MR. PETERSEN: I'll go ahead and second
- 9 that if you're okay with that.
- 10 MR. FLEMING: Yes. Does everyone
- 11 understand the motion of what's being asked?
- MS. ADAMS: That you will take over --
- MR. FLEMING: Well, as I understand, yeah,
- 14 the motion is for me to act as hearing examiner,
- 15 because I think when objections come up, we all are
- 16 kind of looking at each other. Normally, it is the
- 17 Chair's obligation, but under the rules of
- 18 procedure, you can have -- vote to have somebody
- 19 else deal with points of order and things like that,
- 20 certainly, I think evidentiary objections and
- 21 running the process.
- 22 MR. PETERSEN: It allows us to focus on
- 23 the case.
- 24 MS. ADAMS: Yeah. That sounds good to me.
- 25 MR. PETERSEN: We need to vote on it.

- 1 MR. FLEMING: We have a motion and a
- 2 second.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Okay. All those
- 4 in favor, please signify by saying aye.
- 5 (Whereupon, all the ayes were
- 6 heard.)
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Any opposed with
- 8 nay.
- 9 (Whereupon, no nays were heard.)
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: All right. The
- 11 motion carries.
- MR. FEELEY: Can you read back the last
- 13 question, please?
- 14 (Whereupon, the record was read
- by the reporter.)
- THE WITNESS: Define "separate."
- 17 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 18 Q. Let me clarify. Do you agree that it's a
- 19 separate use, a different use than the ambulatory
- 20 surgery center?
- MR. DILLON: Objection. Vague.
- MR. FLEMING: Do you understand the
- 23 question?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. As I stated
- 25 earlier, I don't know who will be in these suites,

- 1 so I can't tell you if it's -- it depends on whether
- 2 they're receiving care. If they are receiving care,
- 3 then it's part of the ASC. If they live 500 miles
- 4 away and they come to Beloit and want the
- 5 convenience of staying overnight before their
- 6 procedure, it's an amenity, an accessory. So,
- 7 again, I can't predict who is going to be there.
- 8 Our review was required to look at the possibilities
- 9 of different scenarios and whether they were
- 10 permitted in the C-3 district.
- 11 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 12 Q. Are you aware of anything under the
- definition of medical facility in Ordinance 3719
- 14 that allows residential care complexes as an
- 15 accessory use?
- A. No, and that's not what was approved.
- 17 Q. And are you aware of anything under the
- 18 definition of a medical facility under Ordinance
- 19 3719 that approves lodging rooms with patients or
- 20 their families?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. And can you tell me the language in
- 23 Ordinance No. 3719 that supports your testimony?
- A. Sure. So Ordinance No. 3719 provides the
- 25 definition of medical facility and then provides

- 1 accessory uses.
- 2 Q. And for accessory uses, it states offices,
- 3 meeting areas, cafeterias, parking, maintenance
- 4 facilities and housing facilities for staff or
- 5 trainees?
- 6 A. Correct. What page are -- what page
- 7 number are you on so we're looking at the same
- 8 thing?
- 9 MR. FEELEY: This would be City Exhibit
- 10 465.
- 11 MR. FLEMING: If I may, just for clarity
- of the record, this Ordinance 3719, am I correct
- 13 that this is an ordinance that hasn't been adopted
- 14 and has been made several amendments to the City's
- 15 Code of Ordinances; is that correct?
- MR. ROTH: I believe so, yeah.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay. So this is -- could
- 18 we --
- 19 MR. FEELEY: Sure. So if it's -- if
- 20 it's -- I think I know where you're going with that.
- 21 So if it's easier, you can find that definition
- 22 also, Mr. Pennington, on OrthoIllinois Exhibit 17,
- 23 page OI 867.
- 24 THE WITNESS: So what we are looking at
- 25 here is the definition of a medical facility. I can

- 1 read the characteristics or the accessory uses or
- 2 any of the examples, if you'd like.
- 3 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Well, I want you to -- my question was,
- 5 can you point to the language that you're relying
- 6 upon for your conclusion, if it is, in fact, your
- 7 conclusion, that lodging rooms for patients and
- 8 their families are an accessory use to an ambulatory
- 9 surgery center?
- 10 A. I would say under D-2, accessory uses, it
- 11 lists a number of examples of accessory uses,
- 12 including offices, meeting areas, cafeterias,
- 13 parking, maintenance and housing facilities for
- 14 staff or trainees. That is a list of example
- 15 accessory uses. It is not an exhaustive list. In
- 16 other words, there are lots of accessory uses in any
- 17 given building. They don't all have to be
- 18 delineated if they meet the general definition of an
- 19 accessory use.
- Q. Did you read OrthoIllinois' findings of
- 21 fact and conclusions of law that were submitted to
- 22 the board of appeals in this case?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And do you have a copy of that document in
- 25 front of you?

- 1 A. I'm sure I do. I've got lots of copies.
- 2 MR. DILLON: There is not a copy because
- 3 that's the one document I removed as I told you when
- 4 we got started.
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Okay. Let me see if I have
- 6 copy of you.
- 7 MR. DILLON: For the record, it's at
- 8 page -- it starts at page 1074 of the packet.
- 9 MS. ADAMS: 1074?
- 10 MR. DILLON: Correct.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Are any board members using
- 12 the binders that are up there?
- MR. PETERSEN: Here, I can give it to him.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 15 MR. PETERSEN: That's OrthoIllinois
- 16 Exhibit 1076 you said?
- 17 MR. DILLON: There is no paper copy for
- 18 you, Mr. Pennington. That's the one document I
- 19 removed.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Sure. No problem, I've got
- 21 it. I've got an extra copy here. Okay.
- 22 MS. CHRISTENSEN: 1074 in the whole
- packet, the 2,000-page document is page 1074.
- 24 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. If you would, can you turn to page 9 of

- 1 that document?
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 MS. CHRISTENSEN: Which number is this?
- 4 MR. DILLON: That would be 1082 of the
- 5 agenda packet.
- 6 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 7 Q. And, specifically, I want to draw your
- 8 attention to paragraph 34. And this references a
- 9 statement of a conversation that occurred with you
- 10 and presumably Mr. Don Schriener, Mr. Anthony Brown,
- 11 David Mikos and Mike Hunt about OrthoIllinois'
- 12 interpretation of the zoning ordinance following
- 13 receiving notice from DHS that nursing home beds
- 14 were not available. Do you recall a conversation
- 15 like that?
- 16 A. Yes, there was the conversation.
- 17 Q. And the conversation reflected in
- 18 paragraph 32 talks about an analysis of the zoning
- 19 ordinance that was discussed with you during that
- 20 call. Do you recall that?
- 21 A. No, the analysis document referred to here
- 22 was internal to OrthoIllinois. It was not presented
- 23 to me.
- Q. Okay. Let me do it this way. Paragraph
- 25 32, 33, says, "The zoning officer did not disagree

- 1 with OI's zoning analysis during the above-noted
- 2 conference call. The zoning officer also expressed
- 3 his view that since the C-3 zoning for the property
- 4 permitted medical facility uses, OI's proposed
- 5 overnight stay rooms should properly be viewed as an
- 6 accessory use to the ASC medical facility, and no
- 7 separate zoning analysis for the overnight stay
- 8 rooms was therefore necessary." Is that -- does
- 9 that accurately reflect --
- 10 A. That accurately reflects part of our
- 11 discussion.
- 12 Q. And then 34 says, "Because the zoning
- 13 officer expressed his view during the above-noted
- 14 conference call that the overnight stay rooms would
- 15 constitute an allowable accessory use that would be
- 16 permitted as part of the principal use of an ASC as
- 17 a medical facility, and the materials OI submitted
- 18 to the City for further review of the project after
- 19 the conference call occurred largely omit any
- 20 reference to the overnight stay rooms as being a use
- 21 separate from the ASC medical facility component of
- 22 the use." Is that an accurate statement?
- 23 A. It's from their perspective.
- Q. I understand that, but I'm asking you,
- 25 they represent, in this document, that that was your

- 1 view. Is that a true statement?
- 2 A. That is one view I have of it, yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. And what was the other view that
- 4 you had of it?
- 5 A. So, again, we're talking about a property
- 6 zoned C-3, community commercial. Whether it's an
- 7 ASC alone, an ASC with overnight suites, or an
- 8 overnight -- or an ASC with nursing suites, or,
- 9 frankly, a hotel, hypothetically, those are all
- 10 permitted uses in the C-3 district.
- 11 Q. Did you approve this as a hotel?
- 12 A. No, that's why I said "for example" or
- 13 "for instance."
- Q. So is it true -- you approved it as an
- 15 accessory use as part of the ASC; is that correct?
- 16 I'm just trying to get to the bottom line here.
- 17 What did you approve it as?
- 18 A. It was approved as a medical facility.
- 19 That is the term in the certificate of zoning
- 20 compliance that we're here about.
- Q. And I understand that, but medical
- 22 facility does not -- six -- a six-room lodging
- 23 structure does not fall under the definition of a
- 24 medical facility; isn't that correct?
- 25 A. I think it does.

- 1 O. You think it does?
- 2 A. Or it could depending upon who's there. I
- 3 can tell you, if it helps, it was not approved as a
- 4 residential care apartment complex.
- 5 Q. It was not?
- 6 A. That's what it was not approved as.
- 7 MR. FEELEY: I have nothing else for
- 8 Mr. Pennington.
- 9 MR. ROTH: As I read the order of
- 10 procedure, what we're doing now is
- 11 cross-examination, but to the extent I have any
- 12 further questions for Mr. Pennington, I don't
- 13 believe that comes until later in the order of
- 14 presentation. It looks like No. 14. Before that
- 15 comes, though --
- MR. FLEMING: Well, you could present
- 17 him -- well, yeah, I think there's questions. This
- 18 is cross-examination of the parties. What you would
- 19 be doing would be redirect, right?
- 20 MR. ROTH: Correct. I want to confirm
- 21 that's the understanding.
- 22 MR. FLEMING: That's my -- that's my
- 23 reading of the rules and stuff, but Ortho, you can
- 24 go ahead and cross-examine.
- MR. DILLON: Thank you.

- 1 Mr. Pennington, my questions for you are
- 2 going to track with the subject matter of
- 3 OrthoIllinois' submitted proposed findings of fact,
- 4 my organizing document. I'd like to go through that
- 5 as quickly as we can, and see what you agree with
- 6 and what you disagree with and get things on the
- 7 record and do it as fast as we can.
- 8 I'm going to start -- on I'm page 1075 of
- 9 the agenda packet. I'm going to start at paragraph
- 10 11, and I'm going to start asking you some questions
- 11 about these things, and since I am adverse to you, I
- 12 believe I'm allowed to lead you.
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 BY MR. DILLON:
- 15 Q. Just as a matter of historical fact, you
- 16 do understand that OrthoIllinois --
- 17 MR. FEELEY: Actually, I object. I don't
- 18 think he's adverse to the City, and I think leading
- 19 questions are improper.
- MR. FLEMING: Your position?
- 21 MR. DILLON: Well, I just said that I'm
- 22 going to ask leading questions. If we want to be
- 23 here all night, that's fine with me. I can ask
- 24 non-leading questions, that's fine.
- MR. FLEMING: I think -- I don't think

- 1 it's accurate to say that you're adverse to
- 2 Mr. Pennington in which case I don't think the
- 3 grounds for leading questions is appropriate.
- 4 MR. DILLON: Fair enough.
- 5 BY MR. DILLON:
- 6 Q. Mr. Pennington, when did OrthoIllinois
- 7 first approach the City to seek approval of the
- 8 development of an ambulatory surgery center in the
- 9 City?
- 10 A. For this particular property, I believe
- 11 their site plans were submitted on September 30th of
- 12 2021.
- Q. All right. And the record actually shows
- 14 in this particular instance, some applications were
- 15 submitted by OrthoIllinois prior to that, earlier in
- 16 September; is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. In fact, Mr. Feeley reviewed a document
- 19 with you earlier bearing signatures from
- 20 OrthoIllinois showing signatures, I think, in the
- 21 first ten days of September, correct?
- 22 A. I believe that's accurate.
- 23 Q. The record speaks for itself. I don't
- 24 want to pull it back up, but you remember that?
- 25 A. Correct. They were an incomplete

- 1 submittal, yes.
- 2 Q. Throughout OrthoIllinois' interactions
- 3 with -- and I'm going back to the Gateway Boulevard
- 4 property development as well. Throughout
- 5 OrthoIllinois' interactions with City staff with
- 6 regard to that property and the subject property
- 7 that we're talking about today, has OrthoIllinois
- 8 been cooperative with City staff in trying to find
- 9 zoning approval for its development?
- 10 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Irrelevant.
- 11 MR. FLEMING: I'll allow it.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 13 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. To the extent that the City has given
- 15 feedback to OrthoIllinois on applications that
- 16 OrthoIllinois has submitted, has OrthoIllinois been
- 17 responsive to issues and concerns raised by the City
- 18 staff?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. When OrthoIllinois -- well, I'll -- the
- 21 subject property is zoned C-3, correct?
- 22 A. Correct.
- 23 Q. Is there any -- if overnight stay suites
- 24 were not a part of OrthoIllinois' application for
- 25 use on this property, would there be any basis for

- 1 City staff to deny OrthoIllinois' application to
- 2 construct an ASC on the subject parcel?
- 3 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 4 conclusion.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: I'll allow it to the extent
- 6 he's asking for his own position whether he would,
- 7 to his understanding, whether he would deny it.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I don't think there would be
- 9 a basis to deny.
- 10 BY MR. DILLON:
- 11 Q. Did you have a conversation with
- 12 representatives, well, personnel involved with
- 13 OrthoIllinois' application to develop an ASC on the
- 14 subject parcel -- strike that.
- Did you have a conference call with
- 16 members of the team involved in developing
- 17 OrthoIllinois' subject parcel on or about
- 18 November 2, 2021?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. What was the subject of the -- what was
- 21 the topic of the conversation?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. Calls for
- 23 hearsay.
- 24 MR. FLEMING: This is a conversation
- 25 that --

- 1 MR. DILLON: The witness was a party to.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Overruled.
- 3 THE WITNESS: The development team, as all
- 4 the development teams do, requested a conference
- 5 call to talk about a variety of things related to
- 6 the review process, one of which was the building
- 7 plan submittal to the Department of Health Services.
- 8 BY MR. DILLON:
- 9 Q. Do you remember who participated in that
- 10 call with you? Names?
- 11 A. I believe the record accurately reflects
- 12 the participants, Mr. Schreiner, Mr. Brown. Let's
- 13 see. The architects, so Dave Mikos and Mike Hunt,
- 14 were on the call.
- 15 Q. During the call, did the subject of DHS's
- 16 rejection -- or informing OI that nursing home beds
- 17 in the state of Wisconsin were not available, did
- 18 that topic come up?
- 19 A. I believe it did.
- Q. What do you recall, if anything, about
- 21 what was discussed?
- 22 A. The -- at the time of the call, DHS had
- 23 responded to the submittal, and it wasn't a denial
- 24 as much as it was a letter requesting clarification
- on whether this was a nursing home with an ASC

- 1 attached, or an ASC with nursing suites attached.
- 2 Q. Did the conversation touch on any bases
- 3 upon which OrthoIllinois' overnight stay rooms could
- 4 be approved under the zoning ordinance other than as
- 5 a nursing home?
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Compound. Vague.
- 7 Ambiguous.
- 8 MR. FLEMING: Overruled. You may answer
- 9 if you understand the question.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Well, the development team
- 11 wanted to discuss the City's view of the use, so
- 12 yes.
- 13 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. All right. And, specifically, did the
- development team raise with you the development
- 16 team's belief that the overnight care suites could
- 17 be registered with the State of Wisconsin as a
- 18 residential care apartment complex?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. Misstates the
- 20 evidence. He's already testified it wasn't approved
- 21 as a residential care apartment complex.
- MR. FLEMING: That wasn't the question.
- 23 Overruled.
- 24 THE WITNESS: My recollection of that call
- 25 is that I advised the development team that a

- 1 residential care apartment complex, an RCAC, as a
- 2 principal use, was not permitted in C-3.
- 3 BY MR. DILLON:
- 4 Q. That was your position then?
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 Q. And you advised the development team at
- 7 that time of your belief that the use could be
- 8 approved as an accessory, that particular part of
- 9 it, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. So then did it surprise you that from that
- 12 date forward, submittals that you received from OI's
- development team referenced that use as an accessory
- 14 use?
- 15 A. No.
- Q. Was the -- to the extent you received
- 17 subsequent submittals that referred to that use as
- 18 an accessory use, was that consistent with the
- 19 conversation you had with that development team?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. Vaque.
- 21 MR. FLEMING: Answer it if you understand.
- 22 THE WITNESS: It was not a surprise to me
- 23 to see the phrase accessory use used on the site
- 24 plans.

- 1 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. After that November 2, 2021 phone call
- 3 occurred, do you have an understanding about whether
- 4 and to what extent OrthoIllinois would have
- 5 believed, from things that you told them, that those
- 6 overnight stay suites would not be a permitted use
- 7 under the zoning ordinance?
- 8 MR. FEELEY: I'll object. That calls for
- 9 speculation. How can he possibly know?
- 10 MR. DILLON: I asked if he had an
- 11 understanding, Counsel.
- MR. FLEMING: Overruled.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Could you restate the
- 14 question, please?
- 15 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. Following that call --
- 17 A. Yeah.
- Q. Essentially what I'm asking is, do you
- 19 believe that based on that call, OrthoIllinois had
- 20 reason to believe that you were considering the
- 21 overnight care suites to be an accessory use?
- MR. FEELEY: Same objection. Calls for
- 23 speculation.
- 24 MR. DILLON: Well, that's what he told
- 25 them, right?

- 1 MR. FLEMING: Hold on. Sustained, but
- 2 I'm -- I think you've already gotten that, haven't
- 3 you?
- 4 MR. DILLON: Yeah, fair enough. Thank
- 5 you.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: We know about the
- 7 conversation -- we have the conversation around the
- 8 date.
- 9 MR. DILLON: I'm almost done.
- 10 BY MR. DILLON:
- 11 Q. Mr. Pennington, do you remember having
- 12 Mr. Feeley reviewing with you the fact that when an
- 13 application for approval of a particular use is
- 14 filed with the City, the application must list all
- 15 the proposed uses at the time the application is
- 16 filed. That's a requirement --
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 O. And OrthoIllinois did disclose when it
- 19 initially filed that it intended, at that time, it
- 20 proposed, at that time, to use this property for an
- 21 ASC and a nursing home, correct?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- Q. Now, is it common, uncommon, never
- 24 happens, that when City staff receives zoning --
- 25 applications for building permits, that uses that

- 1 are originally proposed change in the course of the
- 2 City's interaction with the Applicant?
- 3 MR. FEELEY: So let me object. You've
- 4 asked three questions, and one question was a yes or
- 5 no answer, common, uncommon. The question is vague.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: I think what you're asking
- 7 from him is to characterize how frequently. I
- 8 understood the question.
- 9 THE WITNESS: It is very common during the
- 10 site plan review process for both specific uses to
- 11 change and the actual plans themselves to change.
- 12 For the board's benefit, these site plans changed
- 13 considerably throughout that process, because I did
- 14 not allow them to put in the driveway they wanted,
- 15 for example.
- 16 BY MR. DILLON:
- 17 Q. And does the City have -- if a zoning use
- 18 is approved based on an Applicant's representation
- 19 of what the proposed use is going to be, what, if
- 20 anything, does the City do if the use that actually
- 21 ensues after the structure is built is inconsistent
- 22 with the use upon which the development was
- 23 originally approved?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. Compound.
- MR. FLEMING: Overruled.

- 1 THE WITNESS: If a violation of the zoning
- 2 ordinance comes to light, then we would engage with
- 3 the property owner, notify them of the violation,
- 4 and ask them to remedy the situation.
- 5 BY MR. DILLON:
- 6 Q. So, for example, if somebody comes to the
- 7 City and says "I want to build a house in an R-1
- 8 district," and they wind up building a missile silo,
- 9 you will take enforcement action?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. But if they build a house, you will take
- 12 no enforcement action; is that right?
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. And would it be fair to say that you have
- 15 no way to know, at the time you're approving a
- 16 proposed use, how the use will actually unfold?
- 17 A. That's correct. I mean, the lifespan of a
- 18 building is going to be anywhere from 150 to
- 19 300 years, so there's no way to predict what all the
- 20 uses might be.
- 21 Q. You were asked some questions by
- 22 Mr. Feeley about what an accessory use is, and
- 23 specific questions about the meaning of the word
- 24 "attached," and I'm going to ask you some questions
- 25 about that.

- 1 I think as I understood the
- 2 questions, it sounds like if OrthoIllinois were
- 3 proposing to build two buildings on this property
- 4 separated by six feet, there might not be an
- 5 accessory use argument because the detached issue
- 6 would come up. But I want to posit a hypothetical
- 7 to you. Could two separate buildings be built on
- 8 this property?
- 9 A. Two principal uses would require a plan
- 10 unit development zoning. PUD.
- 11 Q. Okay. When you determined that this
- 12 particular accessory use met the definitions that
- 13 are in the City's ordinance, did you consider that
- 14 word detached at all?
- 15 A. No, I don't believe it -- I believe there
- 16 are inconsistencies throughout the ordinance with
- 17 the use of that word.
- 18 Q. I appreciate, Mr. Pennington, that at the
- 19 time of this November 2, 2021 conference call that
- 20 we've talked about, that you held the opinion that
- 21 this group living use that OI had submitted would
- 22 constitute a hotel use as the ordinance was written.
- 23 At that time your position was that would not fly
- 24 with the City, fair?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. The question is

- 1 compound. Also, assumes that that conversation even
- 2 occurred, which has already been denied by the
- 3 witness. It's an improper form.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Could you rephrase that?
- 5 It's not clear to me what conversation you may be
- 6 talking about.
- 7 MR. DILLON: Let me ask you something
- 8 different.
- 9 BY MR. DILLON:
- 10 Q. Did you review the City's submitted
- 11 proposed findings of fact, conclusion of law and
- order regarding this matter before it was submitted?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And you are aware that as the City's --
- 15 paragraph 8C of that submission states that the
- 16 overnight accommodations are approvable as a
- 17 stand-alone permitted use, because this proposed
- 18 group living use is not a nursing home or hospice
- 19 facility, and the lodging would be provided for less
- 20 than 30 days, making this a hotel or motel use which
- 21 is also a permitted use in the C-3 zoning district.
- 22 And I apologize. That's at page 2,004 of the agenda
- 23 packet.
- 24 MR. FEELEY: So, objection. First of all,
- 25 the question is leading, but it's also compound.

- 1 MR. DILLON: I'm directing him to the
- 2 subject matter --
- 3 MR. FLEMING: Overruled.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, on that page of the
- 5 City's legal brief, the notion of these lodging
- 6 suites being deemed a hotel or a motel use is the
- 7 third example given of possible approval scenarios,
- 8 yes.
- 9 BY MR. DILLON:
- 10 Q. Okay. So as of today, the City's
- 11 submission that you reviewed before it was
- 12 submitted, now essentially agrees with the position
- 13 OI was taking in that November 2, 2021 conference
- 14 call with you, fair?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. Calls for
- 16 hearsay. Asking for a statement by a person who's
- 17 not the declarant and who is not a party opponent.
- 18 Calls for hearsay. Also reflects facts not in
- 19 evidence.
- 20 MR. FLEMING: I disagree with the last. I
- 21 don't know that it's hearsay either, but in any
- 22 event, we're not bound by strict rules of evidence.
- 23 I basically understand you to be asking him does he
- 24 now hold that opinion reflected in the brief. Is
- 25 that the question?

- 1 MR. DILLON: That's the question.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Can you answer that
- 3 question?
- 4 THE WITNESS: I will say that a hotel or a
- 5 motel use is permitted by right in the C-3 district.
- 6 I think the language in the brief that you've
- 7 pointed to is a bit roundabout, but, yes, it gets
- 8 there to the point of being a permitted use, the
- 9 lodging suites as they will exist.
- 10 MR. DILLON: Thank you. I have no further
- 11 questions.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay.
- 13 (Whereupon, Mr. Pennington was
- 14 excused.)
- MR. FLEMING: Does the City have any other
- 16 witnesses?
- MR. ROTH: The City is not going to call
- 18 anyone else for its case in chief.
- 19 MR. FLEMING: It's now time for the
- 20 Applicants' case in chief.
- MR. FEELEY: Appellant?
- MR. FLEMING: Or, yeah, Appellant.
- 23 MR. FEELEY: I would call Mr. John Eagon.
- MR. DILLON: If I may ask, will we be
- 25 taking any breaks of any kind?

- 1 MR. FLEMING: Do you need a break? Five?
- 2 Ten?
- 3 MS. ADAMS: Ten minutes.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: We'll return at 8:40 then.
- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 7 Q. Mr. Eagon, can you state your full name,
- 8 please, and describe to the board what your
- 9 occupation is?
- 10 A. John Eagon. I'm a registered architect in
- 11 the state of Wisconsin.
- 12 (Whereupon, the court reporter
- asked to swear in the witness.)
- JOHN EAGON,
- 15 having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 16 testified as follows:
- 17 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 19 Q. Okay. Mr. Eagon, you just testified,
- 20 before the court reporter reminded us that you
- 21 needed to be put under oath, but you did state that
- 22 you are a registered architect, licensed architect,
- 23 in the state of Wisconsin; is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And is Premium Planview your business?

- 1 A. Yes, that's my business. It's a sole
- 2 proprietorship.
- 3 Q. Okay. And do you -- what, if any,
- 4 relationship do you have with the Wisconsin
- 5 Department of Health Services?
- A. I don't have any relationship with them.
- 7 Q. Are you recognized by Department of Health
- 8 Services as an authorized or certified reviewer that
- 9 DHS can rely upon with respect to building plans?
- 10 A. No, not with DHS.
- 11 Q. Okay. How about with Department of Safety
- 12 and Professional Services?
- 13 A. Yes, they recognize my plan reviews as
- 14 basically being equivalent to a state plan review.
- 15 Q. Okay. And, I apologize, I want to refer
- 16 him to City Document 418.
- MR. DILLON: 418 you said, Counsel?
- MR. FEELEY: Yes.
- MR. DILLON: That's going to be at --
- 20 THE WITNESS: Is that going to be in one
- 21 of these folders up here?
- MR. FEELEY: Yes.
- MR. DILLON: For the record, City 418 is
- 24 page 475.

- 1 MR. FLEMING: 475 on the official board
- 2 record.
- 3 MS. ADAMS: The big one.
- 4 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 5 Q. Do you recognize, Mr. Eagon, using the
- 6 Bates-stamp numbers in the lower right-hand corner
- 7 of the document that you're looking at, pages --
- 8 City 418 through 422, as being an approval letter
- 9 that you drafted on December 15, 2021?
- 10 A. Yes, that's my review report of a plan
- 11 review for the project that's referenced.
- 12 Q. And who engaged you to perform the review
- 13 that's listed in this document?
- 14 A. The way I work, basically the plans are
- 15 submitted to me. I do the review. I believe the
- 16 designers were the ones who'd submit it to me
- 17 directly.
- 18 Q. The architects and the engineers for
- 19 OrthoIllinois?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And the plans that you received, did they
- 22 include the -- essentially the floor plan of the
- 23 premises that were being proposed to be constructed?
- A. Typically I'll get a site plan, the floor
- 25 plan sections telling how the materials go together

- 1 to construct the building.
- 2 Q. And do you recall getting a site plan from
- 3 either the designer or the engineer? You've been
- 4 sitting here, and you've heard the testimony about
- 5 the lodging suites, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And I'm looking at a site plan. I
- 8 can refer you to the page, and we can find it, but
- 9 first I just want to ask you whether or not you
- 10 ended up seeing a site plan with the floor plan
- 11 layout that described the lodging rooms as having a
- 12 nursing suite, patient care rooms, nursing lounge,
- 13 things of that nature. Do you recall that?
- 14 A. I recall a plan referring to nursing
- 15 suites, I think. I don't recall a plan with all the
- 16 other nursing language. There might have been the,
- 17 you know, the room titles, but . . .
- 18 Q. Okay. Well, let me just -- just so the
- 19 record is clear, I want to refer to City's -- City's
- 20 record, page 063.
- MR. FEELEY: 063. Slow down a little bit,
- 22 Julie. There it is right there. Can you shrink
- 23 that?
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: I can.

- 1 MR. DILLON: Okay. For the record, this
- 2 is agenda packet page 120.
- 3 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 4 Q. And on this -- on this exhibit, do you see
- 5 that wing kind of off to the left-hand side?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MR. FEELEY: And, Ms. Christensen, if you
- 8 could, could you blow up that wing a little bit and
- 9 then scroll up a little bit?
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: Right like that?
- MR. FEELEY: Yeah.
- 12 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 13 Q. I don't know if you can read that, but can
- 14 you see there, right here where it says "Nursing
- 15 Station. Nurse Station"?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And "Nursing Patient No. 2"?
- 18 A. Yes, I don't -- I don't recall seeing that
- 19 floor plan.
- Q. Okay. The floor plan that you did see, do
- 21 you know -- can you -- do you recollect when you
- 22 received it?
- 23 A. I received it with the package of all the
- 24 other plans that were submitted for review.
- Q. Okay. And did the plans that you

- 1 received, did they actually show the floor plan of
- 2 this --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- kind of building jutting out there to
- 5 the left, or did it just have something like --
- 6 A. No, it was very similar to that floor
- 7 plan.
- 8 Q. Okay. But you don't remember if it said
- 9 "nursing station" or --
- 10 A. I believe it probably -- I think it said
- 11 "lodging."
- 12 Q. Okay. Now, in your opinion that you've
- issued, I think you mentioned that the building
- 14 plans were originally submitted for a location at
- 15 1315 Gateway Boulevard. You'll see that on the
- 16 second page of your letter under "General Comments"?
- 17 A. Yes, I -- yes, that's a paragraph in this
- 18 letter.
- 19 Q. So you were involved in the review that
- 20 initially happened back in January of 2021?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And were you involved in that review as a
- 23 certified or authorized reviewer by DSPS as well?
- 24 A. Yes, I -- basically my function is, I'm a
- 25 substitute for DSPS in Beloit, and the DSPS have an

- 1 agreement that if I review the plans, they can
- 2 accept them just as if they came from DSPS.
- 3 Q. Okay. And when you issued this opinion,
- 4 this letter dated December 15, 2021, did you
- 5 understand that that portion of the building that's
- 6 jutting out to the left was actually part of the
- 7 ambulatory surgery center that you were reviewing?
- 8 A. It was part of the plan package that I was
- 9 submitted, and I was reviewing the package, yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And did you have an understanding
- 11 whether or not that portion of the building that had
- 12 the jut out to the left was part of the ambulatory
- 13 surgery center?
- 14 A. The way the code is set up, it was
- 15 submitted as part of the building. I think there's
- 16 some staff areas for the ambulatory service in that
- 17 wing, so it's, you know, they work together.
- 18 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the federal
- 19 regulations that apply or the state rules that apply
- 20 to ambulatory surgery centers?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. And let's do it this way. I think
- 23 your approval and/or comments with respect to this
- 24 facility state that this project is for a building
- 25 that will be a Group B ambulatory care facility,

- 1 correct?
- 2 MR. DILLON: What page are you
- 3 referencing, Counsel?
- 4 MR. FEELEY: I'm sorry. City 419, second
- 5 page of his letter.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 7 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 8 Q. And then it says, "With a Group R-1
- 9 occupancy used for overnight lodging by patients and
- 10 families being served."
- 11 A. Yes, that's -- generally I put that in my
- 12 letters to summarize in a sentence or two what the
- 13 project's actually going to be.
- Q. Okay. And are you describing there two
- 15 types of uses?
- 16 A. There's two types of occupancies under the
- 17 building code that would apply.
- 18 Q. Okay. And under the International
- 19 Building Code that you apply, those two occupancies
- 20 need to be separated; is that correct?
- 21 A. It depends how the designer does the
- 22 building. The code does not require them to be
- 23 separated. One of the options that's available to
- 24 the designer, they get some advantages, they are
- 25 separated. So it's up to the designer how they

- 1 submit the plans.
- Q. Okay. And I'm trying to understand that
- 3 last sentence under that same paragraph that says,
- 4 "The Group B and Group R-1 occupancies will be
- 5 separated as required by IBC Section 422, which has
- 6 detailed requirements for ambulatory care
- 7 facilities."
- 8 A. That's correct. A Group B occupancy is
- 9 typically your office building, and then there's
- 10 some additional requirements if your business --
- 11 Group B is a business occupancy, but if you're an
- 12 ambulatory care facility, you have some additional
- 13 requirements that have to be met.
- Q. Okay. And looking at those plans, do
- 15 you -- do you have an understanding of what portion
- of that building was the ambulatory care facility?
- 17 A. The way the designer designed the
- 18 building, it didn't really matter because it met --
- 19 the whole building met the ambulatory, and the R-2
- 20 also met the, you know, R-2 or the -- I'm sorry --
- 21 the R-1 requirements of the occupancy.
- 22 Q. Okay. And if you would have understood
- 23 that, for example, nursing services were going to be
- 24 occurring in the -- that portion of the building
- 25 that jutted out to the left, that would have

- 1 required DHS licensing; is that correct?
- 2 A. The way the state is set up, DSPS and
- 3 health and social services, health and social
- 4 services reviews the plans for the building code
- 5 that normally would be looked at DSPS. Because they
- 6 have the funding sources, also they have some
- 7 additional requirements, so it didn't make sense for
- 8 both agencies to review the plan. And so DHS does
- 9 the whole -- the whole thing. So they cover their
- 10 requirements, plus the building code requirements.
- 11 O. Okay. So there would have been some
- 12 licensing review required by DHS if you would have
- 13 learned there was going to be nursing services, for
- 14 example, being provided in that?
- 15 A. Yes, I believe they require to license
- 16 something if it's -- especially a new building, they
- 17 require the plans to be approved.
- 18 Q. Did you -- with respect to the plans that
- 19 you reviewed, did you -- do you know what a
- 20 residential care apartment complex is?
- 21 A. I'm familiar with it, yes.
- Q. Okay. And that's a state licensed
- 23 facility by DHS, correct?
- 24 A. They have different levels. I think for
- 25 funding, it's licensed by DH -- DHS, but the plans

- 1 are reviewed through -- because they don't have any
- 2 special requirements for that type of license or for
- 3 the building to meet to get that license, the plans
- 4 are reviewed by DSPS.
- 5 Q. Okay. Did you see -- did you see anything
- 6 on the plans or drawings that you reviewed that
- 7 suggested to you that that portion of the building
- 8 that jutted out was a residential care apartment
- 9 complex?
- 10 A. I wouldn't have been looking. It's the
- 11 same requirements, so I wouldn't be looking, and I
- 12 don't recall seeing anything, though, that
- 13 specifically called that out as a residential care
- 14 facility.
- Q. Okay. And I'm sure you know what a hotel
- or a motel is, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. And did you see anything on those
- 19 plans that suggested to you that it was going to be
- 20 a hotel or a motel licensed by Rock County?
- 21 A. No, not -- not that it was going to be a
- 22 hotel/motel, no.
- Q. Okay. And when you -- I see that you
- 24 submitted this letter to Mr. Mikos, who was the
- 25 designer; Mr. Schreiner, who is listed as the

- 1 owner/agent for Rockford Orthopedic Associates.
- 2 Does this get sent to DSPS too?
- 3 A. No. And, in fact, my letter I submit to
- 4 the City of Beloit, because they do the building
- 5 permit, and their agreement with the State is they
- 6 issue the permit. The State does not get a copy of
- 7 these. They come in and monitor every once in a
- 8 while.
- 9 Q. So are you -- if you -- and --
- MR. FEELEY: I'm sorry, gentlemen, I'll
- 11 need the -- I'll need page City 423, which is a
- 12 letter right after your letter.
- MR. DILLON: That would be board packet --
- 14 or agenda packet page 480.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I have 423 and 424.
- 16 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 17 O. Okay. And I believe I know the answer to
- 18 this question, but I just want to be certain. The
- 19 review you did didn't have anything to do with this
- 20 conditional approval starting on page City 423 and
- 21 going to City 424; is that correct?
- 22 A. Right. This approval is for the plumbing
- 23 system that goes into the building.
- Q. Okay. And same question with respect to
- 25 the document that occurs thereafter, City 425 to

- 1 City 426. It's another conditional approval by
- 2 DSPS?
- 3 A. Yes, that's also through their plumbing
- 4 department.
- 5 Q. Okay. That doesn't have anything to do
- 6 with the use of the building or whatnot?
- 7 A. Well, the plumbing code, depending on the
- 8 use, it would have some.
- 9 Q. I'm talking about nursing or care being
- 10 provided in any parts of the building.
- 11 A. I guess I'm -- I'm not quite clear how
- 12 they would identify occupancies for their plumbing
- 13 code. It'd be dictated by the plumbing code, not
- 14 necessarily the building code.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay. I don't have anything
- 16 else for Mr. Eagon.
- MR. ROTH: Nothing from the City.
- MR. FLEMING: Anything from OrthoIllinois?
- MR. DILLON: No questions.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay. You're free to go.
- 21 (Whereupon, Mr. Eagon was
- excused.)
- MR. FEELEY: Julie Christensen, please.
- JULIE CHRISTENSEN,
- 25 having been first duly sworn, was examined and

- 1 testified as follows:
- 2 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 4 Q. Your title is Director of Community
- 5 Development; is that correct?
- 6 A. Community Development Director.
- 7 Q. Community Development Director. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 And in terms of your position level,
- 10 are you above Mr. Pennington or below him?
- 11 A. I am his supervisor, so I'm above him.
- 12 Q. And for purposes of community development,
- is there anybody who holds a position higher than
- 14 you in the building and services division?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. I'm not in the building and services
- 18 division, though.
- 19 Q. You're in community development.
- 20 A. I am Drew's supervisor.
- Q. Okay. You were the staff member, the
- 22 agent for the City that proposed the medical
- 23 facility ordinance that we've been talking about
- 24 this evening, Ordinance No. 3719, to the plan
- 25 commission in August of 2021, correct?

- 1 A. I'm the staff person who worked with the
- 2 attorney's office to draft it and outside counsel,
- 3 and I'm the person who presented the staff report,
- 4 because I present all staff reports to plan
- 5 commission and city council on behalf of my
- 6 department.
- 7 Q. And you actually prepared reports to the
- 8 plan commission; is that correct?
- 9 A. I did for the ordinance. I don't usually,
- 10 but I did for that particular item.
- 11 Q. I'm sorry, you did or you didn't?
- 12 A. I did for the ordinance, but I don't
- 13 typically prepare plan commission reports, but I did
- 14 for the ordinance.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay. Beloit Health
- 16 System 7.
- 17 MR. DILLON: That's agenda packet page
- 18 number 539.
- 19 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 20 Q. This is a report that you drafted?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And the purpose of this report was to
- 23 describe to the plan commission the medical facility
- 24 ordinance that was being proposed for a
- 25 recommendation by the plan commission to the city

- 1 council?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. And the staff analysis there, that's your
- 4 staff analysis?
- 5 A. It's the City's staff analysis.
- 6 Q. Okay. And true statement that with
- 7 respect to this ordinance, it proposed a definition
- 8 of ambulatory surgery center; is that correct?
- 9 A. It did.
- 10 Q. And that definition used in the ordinance
- 11 basically copied the federal definition; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. My understanding is it's similar. I
- 14 couldn't tell you for sure if it copied it. It
- 15 wasn't drafted by me, so . . .
- 16 Q. It was drafted by the City attorney?
- 17 A. It was drafted by outside counsel.
- 18 Q. By outside counsel.
- MR. FEELEY: So this is not an exhibit,
- 20 it's just a federal regulation which Counsel can
- 21 take judicial notice of. I have more copies. Do
- 22 you think everybody wants one?
- MR. FLEMING: Well, you're asking us about
- 24 it, so, yeah, everyone needs to see it.
- MR. FEELEY: Can we share maybe?

- 1 MR. PETERSEN: We can share.
- 2 MR. FEELEY: You can share?
- 3 MR. PETERSEN: Yeah.
- 4 MR. FEELEY: Here's another one.
- 5 MR. PETERSEN: Thank you.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Yep.
- 7 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Do you have a copy of the ordinance in
- 9 front of you?
- 10 A. I do.
- 11 Q. And could you turn to the page of the
- 12 ordinance that defines ambulatory surgery center?
- 13 A. I'm already there.
- 14 Q. Thank you.
- So we're looking at page 4,
- 16 Section 9, correct?
- 17 A. Mm-hmm. Correct.
- 18 Q. And it says "An ambulatory surgery center
- 19 is a distinct entity that operates exclusively for
- 20 the purpose of providing surgical services to
- 21 patients not requiring hospitalization and in which
- 22 the expected duration of services would not exceed
- 23 24 hours following an admission."
- MR. DILLON: Objection. This document
- 25 speaks for itself.

- 1 MR. FEELEY: I'm sorry, what?
- 2 MR. DILLON: This documents speaks for
- 3 itself. Is there a question?
- 4 MS. ADAMS: What page are we on? I'm
- 5 sorry.
- 6 MR. DILLON: This isn't a page.
- 7 MR. FEELEY: We're on --
- MR. DILLON: We're on page BHS 13,
- 9 Counsel, is that right? That would be agenda 545.
- MS. ADAMS: 545. Okay. Thank you.
- 11 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 12 Q. I've handed you what I'll represent is a
- 13 copy of Federal Regulation 42 CFR Section 416.2. Do
- 14 you see that?
- 15 A. I do.
- Q. And would you agree with me that up until
- 17 the word "hospitalization," the definition under
- 18 federal law is identical to the definition in the
- 19 ordinance?
- 20 A. It uses the same language.
- Q. Okay. So you would agree with me, it
- 22 appears that, like you advised the plan commission,
- 23 that the ordinance was drafted to closely align with
- 24 federal definition for that type facility; is that
- 25 correct?

- 1 A. Yeah --
- 2 MR. DILLON: Objection. Vague.
- 3 MR. FEELEY: Is that correct? I think she
- 4 already answered the question.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I just -- he objected, so I
- 6 was waiting to see.
- 7 MR. FLEMING: And I didn't hear the
- 8 objection.
- 9 MR. DILLON: The objection is it's vague.
- 10 "Closely aligned with." I have no idea what that
- 11 means.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, I'm wondering why we
- 13 are asking somebody to testify as to what two laws
- 14 say? We're going to be here all night if we have
- 15 witnesses talking about what the law says. The
- 16 lawyers can say what the law says. The time for --
- 17 witnesses are here to testify about facts. Could we
- 18 get to relevant facts, please?
- 19 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. When you proposed the ordinance to the
- 21 plan commission, your understanding was that all of
- 22 the definitions of different medical facilities
- 23 would apply; is that correct?
- 24 MR. DILLON: Objection. Relevance and
- 25 foundation. This witness does not set the

- 1 ordinances for the City of Beloit.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Counsel, I'll hear from you.
- 3 MR. FEELEY: She drafted the report to the
- 4 plan commission describing what the ordinance is.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: Well, right, but, I mean,
- 6 this is not typically competent evidence for what
- 7 ordinances mean. I mean, there's been no argument
- 8 at any point so far that the ordinance is ambiguous.
- 9 So, you know, a staff report, you know, legislative
- 10 council reports, none of those things are typically
- 11 admissible unless or until we have an issue of
- 12 ambiguity, and I have not heard that yet.
- MR. FEELEY: Well, it seems to me the
- 14 City's and OrthoIllinois' position is that any type
- 15 of use, as long as it meets the characteristics of a
- 16 medical facility without regard to the other
- 17 specified definitions in the ordinance, can be
- 18 approved just as a medical facility. And so --
- 19 MR. FLEMING: Yeah.
- MR. FEELEY: -- it's relevant as to what
- 21 this witness understood the ordinance meant and what
- 22 the recommendation was to the plan commission and
- 23 the city council.
- 24 MR. FLEMING: But how does this -- how
- 25 does this witness's understanding of what it meant

- 1 translate to what the council, the actual body that
- 2 adopted this, what they thought it meant other than,
- 3 you know, maybe they've read this document? Maybe
- 4 they thought it meant something different. That's
- 5 why -- that's why we interpret ordinances by using
- 6 the plain language of the ordinance itself. Are
- 7 we -- is there an issue of ambiguity that we are
- 8 here -- that we need to decide?
- 9 MR. FEELEY: I would argue there -- well,
- 10 let me complete my statement. I would argue there
- is no ambiguity with respect to City Ordinance 3719,
- 12 and it needs to be read as a whole.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay. Well, again -- if we
- 14 could, let's refer to the code. Ordinance 3719 is
- 15 the number given to a document that the council
- 16 adopted to adopt amendments to the code. So now all
- 17 of these things at the time of this decision that's
- 18 being appealed was made, all the provisions that
- 19 were adopted as part of Ordinance 3719 are now in
- 20 the Code of Ordinances, and there are other things
- 21 that exist in the code, and so just for the record,
- 22 I would prefer if we would refer to the code rather
- than 3719, because, I mean, 3719 isn't a federal
- 24 act, like, you know, Americans With Disabilities
- 25 Act.

- 1 MR. FEELEY: Yeah. And I'm not trying to
- 2 be difficult, but I will tell you when this was
- 3 appealed, the ordinance on the City's web site did
- 4 not include all of these provisions. Do you
- 5 understand what I'm saying? So when it was
- 6 appealed, all the amendments to the various
- 7 provisions in 3719 were not reflected in the code on
- 8 the City's web site.
- 9 MR. FLEMING: So you're saying that the
- 10 City and the code --
- MR. FEELEY: They are now. They are now,
- 12 but you just -- you just told me why are we
- 13 referring to 3719 when all of these provisions were
- 14 referenced in the code when the Appellant appealed,
- 15 and they were not.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, whether they were
- 17 actually in -- I mean, they were officially in the
- 18 code, whether it's reflected on the web site. What
- 19 I'm saying is, all the things in 3719 are a part of
- 20 the Code of Ordinances as of the date of this
- 21 decision. They have references within -- within the
- 22 code, Section 11.3, 4 and 5. And I expect there's
- 23 going to be a lot of different things referred to.
- 24 Some stuff that existed before 3719 was adopted.
- 25 And if we're going to -- I just think we should be

- 1 referring to all the ordinances by their code
- 2 reference. But back to the issue at hand. What I'm
- 3 trying to get at is competency of a witness to
- 4 testify as to what an ordinance means when we have
- 5 no issue of ambiguity.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: She was writing reports to
- 7 the plan commission and the city council
- 8 explaining -- well, and, again, this goes to if the
- 9 City's position is that the only thing that matters
- 10 is medical facility, and you can -- it doesn't have
- 11 to meet the definition of the ambulatory. It
- 12 doesn't have to meet the definition of a nursing
- 13 home if that's what is. It doesn't have to meet the
- 14 definition of a residential care apartment complex,
- 15 then I'm seeking to ask her questions about why
- 16 those provisions weren't included in the ordinance
- 17 for purposes of clarification. If the City is
- 18 willing to stipulate and OrthoIllinois are willing
- 19 to stipulate that the medical facility provisions,
- 20 as well as all the other definitions that were
- 21 amended or created by 3719 applied to the
- 22 OrthoIllinois development, then I can streamline my
- 23 questions significantly.
- 24 MR. FLEMING: I mean, that's kind of a --
- 25 what is -- what does that mean that they applied?

- 1 But, I mean, the ordinances are what they are.
- 2 There are rules of statutory ordinance construction
- 3 that apply, and I don't think a witness -- a
- 4 witness's testimony about what that witness thinks
- 5 it all means controls. That's typically not
- 6 competent evidence for ordinance interpretation.
- 7 So, I mean, you can argue, I mean, there are
- 8 principle laws that you don't have things in
- 9 ordinances that are superfluous. That might be part
- 10 of your argument, you know, things have to have
- 11 meaning. You argue that words mean certain things
- 12 in relation to the document as a whole, to the
- 13 ordinance as a whole. All those tools of statutory
- 14 construction are available to you. My concern is
- 15 parading witnesses up and giving testimony about
- 16 what they think the ordinance means. And I don't
- 17 believe that's relevant to a statutory
- 18 interpretation question. In fact, even if it's
- 19 ambiguous, witness testimony about what ordinances
- 20 mean typically is not -- is not competent evidence.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay. And I will accept
- 22 that. I assume for purposes of the board's
- 23 deliberation, that same explanation will apply to
- 24 Mr. Pennington's testimony about what he thought the
- 25 ordinance meant.

- 1 MR. FLEMING: Well, yeah. I mean, his
- 2 testimony is a little bit mixed, because he's --
- 3 you're talking about the process of why he did
- 4 certain things. But, no, the board is not bound by
- 5 Mr. Pennington's testimony about whatever his
- 6 interpretation of what the ordinance is either.
- 7 There weren't any objections. There was a bit more
- 8 leeway. It's tougher when you're trying to do one
- 9 of these hearings where a lot of it is ordinance
- 10 interpretation, but yet you have to ask the staff
- 11 member why did you do this and what was the
- 12 background. But as a matter of law, no, we
- 13 aren't -- we aren't bound by the legal
- 14 interpretations from Mr. Pennington either.
- 15 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Okay. So let me -- let me ask this. Do
- 17 you know why Ordinance No. 3719 amended Section
- 18 6.1.1 of the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 19?
- 19 MR. ROTH: Same objection. He's asking
- 20 the same question in just a slightly different way.
- 21 MR. FLEMING: They did it because whatever
- 22 language is there --
- MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- 24 MR. FLEMING: It is the same issue.

- 1 MR. FEELEY: Okay. So I understand your
- 2 explanation that I should stop that line of
- 3 questioning.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Please.
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Okay. City Document 144.
- 6 MR. DILLON: That is agenda packet
- 7 number 201.
- 8 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 9 Q. Did you have any involvement with the
- 10 submissions of OrthoIllinois related to their
- 11 proposed development at 2102 Freeman Parkway?
- 12 A. This document is an engineering document,
- 13 so -- am I on the right page?
- 14 Q. Yes. And my question is whether or not
- 15 you -- this would have been a document that you may
- 16 have received?
- 17 A. I wouldn't have.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. I don't do any kind of site plan review.
- 20 Q. Okay. And you see that this was included
- 21 in the City's record for this proceeding. Do you
- see the date on the document of May 21, 2021?
- 23 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. And when was the medical facility
- ordinance first proposed to the plan commission?

- 1 MR. DILLON: Objection. The record speaks
- 2 for itself on that issue.
- 3 THE WITNESS: I think you said August. I
- 4 don't recall. I mean, I didn't -- I mean, I think
- 5 that was already talked about earlier tonight.
- 6 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 7 O. Was it the intent of Ordinance 3719 to
- 8 take away the permitted uses of 265 properties?
- 9 MR. FLEMING: Attorney Feeley, that is
- 10 directly, again, the same thing that I just got done
- 11 talking about. I think you know that.
- MR. FEELEY: So you're -- just so the
- 13 record is clear, you're forbidding me from --
- MR. FLEMING: Yes, I'm forbidding you from
- 15 asking questions about the intent of the ordinance.
- MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- 17 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Do you recall back in 2020 considering
- 19 whether or not a motel use for the six-room suites
- 20 was appropriate under City ordinances?
- MR. DILLON: Objection. Relevance.
- MR. FLEMING: Sustained.
- 23 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Isn't this one of the options
- 25 Mr. Pennington mentioned that he may have approved

- 1 this portion of the building as a hotel or a motel?
- 2 MR. FLEMING: I don't -- I heard his
- 3 testimony being that he approved it as accessory to
- 4 the -- to the main -- to the ambulatory surgery
- 5 center.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: And that's my question for
- 7 clarification. Accessory as what? A hotel or what?
- 8 It has to be something. What is the accessory use?
- 9 MR. FLEMING: I understood it to be
- 10 sleeping -- sleeping quarters for people staying
- 11 either that had been treated overnight or that
- 12 wanted to stay --
- MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- 14 MR. FLEMING: -- was the testimony.
- 15 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. You're familiar with the comprehensive
- 17 plan?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Is it a true statement -- or it is a true
- 20 statement, is it not, that the comprehensive
- 21 planning document provides that the plans should
- 22 apply to all private and public developments in the
- 23 City of Beloit?
- 24 MR. DILLON: Objection, relevance to the
- 25 comprehensive plan and any questions about it.

- 1 MR. FLEMING: Yeah, I would tend to
- 2 sustain that as well. Mr. Feeley, you, in your
- 3 opening, you gave this line in the comprehensive
- 4 plan as the sole reason why the comprehensive plan
- 5 needed to be considered. But it's pretty clear
- 6 black letter law, you cannot amend the zoning
- 7 ordinances except by the methods set forth in
- 8 Chapter -- or in Section 6223, and simply including
- 9 this line in the comprehensive plan, whatever
- 10 anyone's intent, does not amend the zoning
- 11 ordinance. That's --
- MR. FEELEY: Yeah, just so the record is
- 13 clear --
- MR. FLEMING: I mean, that's black letter
- 15 zoning law.
- MR. FEELEY: But the argument is not that
- 17 it amends the zoning ordinance. The argument is
- 18 that the City -- the City's comprehensive plan
- 19 requires the plan to be applied to all public and
- 20 private developments, regardless of whether or not
- 21 there is a zoning change. And it was not applied to
- 22 this developed -- proposed development by
- 23 OrthoIllinois.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, I don't believe that's
- 25 what the ordinance says, you know, and, again, are

- 1 we back into the same issue of asking witnesses to
- 2 interpret the law? I mean, either a phrase in the
- 3 comprehensive plan is something that somebody is
- 4 bound to rely upon in making a zoning decision or it
- 5 is not. Isn't that an issue of a law, not an issue
- of fact for a witness to testify to?
- 7 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. Let me ask this question. You understand
- 9 what a conditional use permit is?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you agree with me that a conditional
- 12 use permit, application or approval of a conditional
- 13 use permit, does not constitute an amendment of the
- 14 zoning ordinance?
- 15 A. Conditional use is not an amendment to the
- 16 zoning ordinance.
- 17 Q. Correct. And you, as an agent of the
- 18 City, have considered the requirements and/or goals
- 19 and policies of the comprehensive plan in
- 20 determining whether or not to recommend to the plan
- 21 commission and city council to approve a conditional
- 22 use permit?
- 23 A. No.
- MR. DILLON: Same objection. Relevance.

25

- 1 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 2 Q. You have not?
- 3 MR. FLEMING: There's an objection.
- 4 Mr. Feeley, what is the relevance of what
- 5 somebody would do for a comprehensive plan? What
- 6 relevance is that to this matter?
- 7 MR. FEELEY: Well, again, the City and
- 8 OrthoIllinois' argument is that the comprehensive
- 9 plan does not apply at all because this was zoned
- 10 C-3, and no rezoning occurred. And what I believe
- 11 the comprehensive plan says is it's not limited in
- 12 its application to rezoning. And I have examples of
- 13 where, during the conditional use process, the
- 14 comprehensive plan was considered for purposes of
- 15 making a recommendation with regard to the
- 16 conditional use permit being issued, which
- 17 establishes -- and there's a legal conclusion to be
- 18 drawn as to whether or not the plan should have been
- 19 considered with respect to this development like
- 20 I've argued in my appeal, and it wasn't.
- 21 MR. FLEMING: I'm not following why --
- 22 why, though, does the consideration of the
- 23 comprehensive plan with respect to a conditional use
- 24 permit mean that a comprehensive plan has to be
- 25 considered with respect to determining whether

- 1 something is a permitted use in a C-3 district?
- 2 MR. FEELEY: You're not -- let me see if I
- 3 can explain, okay? A conditional use permit, the
- 4 witness just testified, does not involve a change to
- 5 the zoning ordinance or the zoning map.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: I understand what a
- 7 conditional use permit is.
- 8 MR. FEELEY: Okay. All right. However,
- 9 the City -- the City and OrthoIllinois' argument is
- 10 that the Appellants' argument doesn't make sense
- 11 because the only time the comprehensive plan needs
- 12 to be applied is if there's an enactment or
- 13 amendment to the zoning ordinance. And what I've
- 14 argued in my opening is that, yes, that's what the
- 15 state statute says, however, the City, under its
- 16 local powers, can choose to be more strict and can
- 17 require the application of the comprehensive plan to
- 18 all zoning decisions. And if the practice is to
- 19 apply it to all zoning decisions and it's been
- 20 applied to all zoning decisions but for some reason
- 21 it wasn't applied to OrthoIllinois' development,
- 22 that's an appealable issue.
- 23 MR. FLEMING: Okay. But you're not asking
- 24 her if -- you didn't ask her if it applies to all
- 25 zoning issues. You asked her if she has applied it

- 1 to --
- 2 MR. FEELEY: A conditional use permit is
- 3 one example of an instance that doesn't involve a
- 4 rezoning or amendment to the zoning.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: Well, right, but conditional
- 6 use permits are a different process than -- than is
- 7 asking to do something that is a permitted use in a
- 8 zoning district. Those two aren't the same thing.
- 9 MR. FEELEY: Okay. So I think I know
- 10 where you're going with this, and I don't want to,
- 11 but I made my record as to what I believe the
- 12 evidence would show and this witness would testify
- 13 to. If you're not going to permit me to ask her
- 14 those questions, then I will rely on the record I
- 15 just made as to the relevance of that testimony.
- MR. FLEMING: I guess I'll let you go into
- 17 this, but keep it -- keep it brief. I'll allow you
- 18 to make your record, but I still don't believe this
- 19 line of questioning is relevant. If you can get
- 20 there and show some relevance pretty quickly, but I
- 21 think we're spending a lot of time on something that
- 22 is not relevant.
- 23 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. You've applied the policies in the
- 25 comprehensive plan to consideration of whether or

- 1 not to recommend approval of a certified survey map;
- 2 is that correct?
- 3 MR. DILLON: Objection. Relevance, for
- 4 the record.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: I'm going to allow it based
- 6 on what I just --
- 7 THE WITNESS: I don't understand what
- 8 you're asking. I mean, basically we put the
- 9 consistency section to the comp plan is on every
- 10 staff report. It's background information, just
- 11 like surrounding land use. I mean, we just -- we
- 12 have a summary of the entire site, adjacent
- 13 properties, adjacent land uses. We provide the
- 14 consistency to the comp plan as part of that. But
- 15 we're not applying that consistency standard with
- 16 everything. I mean, it's just part of our staff
- 17 reports.
- 18 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 19 Q. Okay. But you have applied it with
- 20 respect to certified survey maps, correct?
- 21 A. I'm not drafting those reports, so, I
- 22 mean, I'm just at plan commission. They don't
- 23 usually discuss the consistency requirement. It's
- 24 in the staff report. It's in all the staff reports.
- Q. And all I can ask you is you're not aware

- 1 of any instance where staff has applied the
- 2 consistency requirements in the comprehensive plan
- 3 to recommendations related to approvals of certified
- 4 survey maps?
- 5 A. I just don't recall.
- 6 Q. Okay. And how about with respect to
- 7 conditional use permits?
- 8 A. With conditional uses, I don't believe
- 9 they've applied the consistency standard, because
- 10 the conditional law changed, and so they rely on the
- 11 finding -- I think it's called findings of fact and
- 12 that decision use form that was -- basically we kind
- of stole from UWSP's Land Use Center. So they focus
- 14 usually, the plan commission does and council on, I
- 15 think -- I don't know if it's called findings of
- 16 fact. I'm doing it from memory. And then there's a
- 17 conditional use decision form that they base it on.
- 18 And I honestly can't speak to whether the
- 19 recommendation has consistency language in it,
- 20 because I -- I mean, don't draft those. I'm just
- 21 the staff liaison to the plan commission. I just
- 22 don't -- I mean, I don't have it in front of me,
- 23 so . . .
- MR. FEELEY: All right. I have nothing
- 25 else then from the witness.

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1 MR. FLEMING: Any examination?
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- 2 MR. ROTH: No questions.
- MR. DILLON: No questions.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Okay. You can go.
- 5 (Whereupon, Ms. Christensen was
- 6 excused.)
- 7 MR. FLEMING: Any other witnesses?
- 8 MR. FEELEY: Not -- not from the
- 9 Appellant.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, we didn't ask, we
- 11 probably should have -- wait. Hold on, sir.
- Do any board members have questions? We
- 13 skipped over that with Mr. Eagon. Does anybody have
- 14 any questions of Mr. Eagon from the board?
- MR. EAGON: I'll be back. I'm just going
- 16 to move my car. There's a ballgame.
- MR. FLEMING: Actually, if they have no
- 18 other questions --
- MR. PETERSEN: I don't have any questions
- 20 for him.
- 21 MR. FLEMING: Does anybody require
- 22 Mr. Eagon to stay?
- MS. ADAMS: I don't have any questions.
- MR. FLEMING: Then you are free to go.
- MR. EAGON: Am I free to come back?

- 1 MR. FLEMING: You're free to come back as
- 2 well.
- 3 Does the board have questions of
- 4 Mrs. Christensen?
- 5 (No questions asked.)
- 6 MR. FLEMING: Okay. Seeing none --
- 7 MR. PETERSEN: Let me ask --
- 8 MR. FLEMING: Actually, could we bring her
- 9 back up to the witness stand? I'm sorry.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: I need to get my steps
- 11 in anyway.
- MR. PETERSEN: I'm sorry.
- 13 MR. FLEMING: You're fine.
- MR. PETERSEN: We, as the board, have
- 15 heard about the two ordinances, the zoning
- 16 ordinances, of course, and then the plan, okay? So
- 17 does the -- does one take precedence over the other?
- 18 I mean, I've read them both, and the plan seems kind
- 19 of vague to me.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: It's a plan, so, yeah.
- MR. PETERSEN: It's a plan --
- 22 MS. CHRISTENSEN: It's a plan, so -- it's
- 23 a quide.
- 24 MR. PETERSEN: But under the state
- 25 statute, does it hold any power over the zoning of

- 1 the area of what we see in Beloit?
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: Well, if you were
- 3 rezoning a property, then it needs to be consistent
- 4 with the comp plan. So if you're doing a zoning
- 5 ordinance amendment, it needs to be consistent with
- 6 the comp plan.
- 7 MR. PETERSEN: Okay. Well, then I ask you
- 8 this question in reverse. If the comp plan is
- 9 inconsistent with the zoning, does it nullify the
- 10 other side?
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: So you're saying if the
- 12 zoning is already in place?
- MR. PETERSEN: Yes.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: Well, I'm not going
- 15 to -- I guess, I guess, I'm not --
- MR. FLEMING: So these are, again, legal
- 17 questions, and you'll have the opportunity to ask
- 18 them, but these are things that ultimately I think
- 19 you'll have to ask me. These are strictly legal
- 20 conclusions.
- MR. PETERSEN: Okay. Okay.
- 22 MR. FEELEY: And, Matt, I'll just voice an
- 23 objection that the board is entitled, under the
- 24 rules of procedure, to ask questions, and if this
- 25 board member has a question, he should be entitled

- 1 to ask it.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Well, I -- thank you. Your
- 3 objection is taken --
- 4 MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: -- but that's what -- the
- 6 witnesses should be asked factual things. Right now
- 7 we are getting to a core legal issue. We'll discuss
- 8 it as a board, and, you know, I think I can give you
- 9 a full, complete response. But is there any
- 10 questions of fact that you have for her?
- MR. PETERSEN: No, that's it then.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: Anything else before I
- 14 go back?
- MR. PETERSEN: No, thank you.
- MR. FLEMING: All right. No other
- 17 witnesses from the Applicant. Questions by the
- 18 board members?
- 19 (No questions asked.)
- MR. FLEMING: The case in chief of other
- 21 parties.
- MR. DILLON: Excuse me?
- MR. FLEMING: Case in chief,
- 24 OrthoIllinois.
- MR. DILLON: What I would propose as a

- 1 timesaving measure, I would be calling Mr. Brown to
- 2 testify as to several proposed findings in our
- 3 submission. I am prepared to not call him if we can
- 4 reach a stipulation as to some of these things,
- 5 because they're already in the record.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: Do you need a moment to
- 7 discuss this with opposing counsel? Do you want to
- 8 take a quick break or do you want to --
- 9 MR. DILLON: I would propose we do that,
- 10 and if we don't get a stipulation, then --
- 11 MR. FLEMING: All right. Let's take ten
- 12 minutes. Come back at 10 to 10:00. Off the record.
- 13 (Whereupon, a brief recess was
- 14 had.)
- 15 MR. FLEMING: Okay. Is our board all
- 16 back? We can go back on the record.
- 17 If OrthoIllinois is ready --
- 18 MR. DILLON: We're ready. And as a point
- 19 of order first, I'd ask the Chair and ask you,
- 20 Mr. Fleming, at this point, the two Appellants in
- 21 this matter are Beloit Health System and Ms. Nommo
- 22 Donald. I apologize if I mispronounced your name.
- 23 I don't believe there's any testimony in this record
- 24 from anybody associated with speaking on behalf of
- 25 Beloit Health System establishing that they're an

- 1 aggrieved party, and, therefore, I think their part
- 2 of this deal ought to be dismissed.
- 3 MR. FEELEY: There's never been any motion
- 4 filed, which should have been filed when motions
- 5 were requested before this body weeks ago, and their
- 6 status as an aggrieved party has never been
- 7 challenged. There's no motion, and for that reason,
- 8 I did not call those witnesses. And, at any rate,
- 9 Ms. Nommo, without objection, did provide testimony
- 10 with respect to her interests and why she believed
- 11 the development affected her legal rights as a
- 12 property owner.
- MR. FLEMING: Yeah, I think, you know, we
- 14 did all try to discuss parties to narrow down the
- issues, and my understanding was no one was
- 16 challenging whether anyone was an aggrieved party.
- 17 I think we would have taken those motions up
- 18 preliminary. So I don't think that's timely.
- 19 MR. DILLON: That's fine, because I
- 20 anticipate this is going up on cert no matter what
- 21 we decide here. I'm noting for the record that
- 22 there's a distinction to be drawn between what the
- 23 prehearing filings are, saying these are the facts I
- 24 intend to prove and what you actually prove at the
- 25 hearing to establish the party is aggrieved. So I

- 1 understand -- I understand the ruling and argument
- 2 then. I appreciate you allowing me to make that
- 3 record.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Yep.
- 5 MR. DILLON: OrthoIllinois calls Anthony
- 6 Brown.
- 7 ANTHONY BROWN,
- 8 having been first duly sworn, was examined and
- 9 testified as follows:
- 10 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. DILLON:
- 12 Q. Could you please state your name for the
- 13 record?
- 14 A. Yep, Anthony Brown.
- 15 Q. Mr. Brown, how are you employed?
- 16 A. I'm CEO of OrthoIllinois.
- Q. What does that mean you do on a day-to-day
- 18 basis for the company?
- 19 A. So I oversee all of the operations of our
- 20 corporation.
- 21 Q. How long have you been employed by
- 22 OrthoIllinois?
- 23 A. Just under two years.
- Q. Are you familiar with Ortho- -- well,
- 25 strike that.

- 1 Are you authorized on behalf of
- 2 OrthoIllinois to testify as OrthoIllinois in these
- 3 proceedings here today?
- 4 A. I am.
- 5 Q. And will that be true with respect to all
- 6 the questions I ask you here today? In other words,
- 7 if I ask you a question here today, and you answer
- 8 it, are you authorized on behalf of OrthoIllinois to
- 9 speak for OrthoIllinois?
- 10 A. I am.
- 11 Q. And prior to coming here today, did you do
- 12 anything to prepare to testify on behalf of
- 13 OrthoIllinois? In other words, did you bring all
- 14 the information that OrthoIllinois has at its
- 15 disposal to bear in these proceedings?
- 16 A. I did.
- 17 Q. And what did you do?
- 18 A. Spoke to our shareholders. I spoke to our
- 19 surgery center, our medical director to understand
- 20 about the facts of that center, and I spoke to our
- 21 architect and development team.
- 22 Q. Have you been involved personally at all
- 23 in OrthoIllinois' efforts to develop an ambulatory
- 24 surgery center here in Beloit?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Can you describe for the board what your
- 2 involvement has been, please?
- 3 A. Yeah, so prior, I took over from Don
- 4 Schreiner. He retired this January, so I took over
- 5 from him in January. Prior to that, I was the
- 6 strategy officer for the group. And I've been
- 7 involved, since I joined OrthoIllinois, on
- 8 developing our surgery center footprint. So we're
- 9 obviously opening one in Beloit. We're also opening
- 10 one in Elgin, Illinois, and so I've been involved in
- 11 that as well as a lot of other mergers and
- 12 acquisitions.
- Q. Does OrthoIllinois operate any ambulatory
- 14 surgery centers anywhere today?
- 15 A. We do.
- 16 O. Where?
- 17 A. Rockford.
- 18 Q. How long has OrthoIllinois operated that
- 19 facility?
- 20 A. 17 years.
- 21 Q. Do you have an understanding of what that
- facility's performance has been over time?
- 23 A. Yeah.
- MR. FEELEY: I'm going to object to
- 25 relevancy.

- 1 MR. DILLON: That's fine. Fair. I'll
- 2 move on.
- 3 BY MR. DILLON:
- 4 Q. When did OrthoIllinois first submit its
- 5 applications for approval for the subject
- 6 development that we're here to talk about?
- 7 A. On Freeman Parkway or on Gateway?
- 8 Q. Freeman Parkway.
- 9 A. Sometime in fall. August, September. I
- 10 don't remember when.
- 11 Q. All right. Are you familiar with the
- 12 reasons why OrthoIllinois chose that particular
- 13 parcel?
- 14 A. I am.
- 15 Q. And what are they?
- 16 A. We were looking for a property that was
- 17 zoned C-3, because in our previous property that we
- 18 chose, the argument was that we were hospital use,
- 19 so, therefore, we went and found a parcel in Beloit
- 20 that was zoned hospital use, because that was the
- 21 argument that we previously faced.
- 22 Q. Do you have an understanding as to what
- 23 the City staff's response was to OrthoIllinois when
- 24 OrthoIllinois first submitted plans to the City for
- 25 review with regard to the subject parcel?

- 1 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Foundation.
- 2 MR. DILLON: I asked if he had an
- 3 understanding.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Yeah, overruled.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 6 BY MR. DILLON:
- 7 Q. What is your understanding?
- 8 A. That when we first submitted, that it
- 9 would be approved based off of the original zoning,
- 10 because we submitted prior to the zoning ordinance
- 11 being updated or amended, and that it would be
- 12 approved based off of hospital use in C-3, however,
- 13 based off of what their -- when we looked at what
- 14 the proposal was, that it would also be approved
- under the proposed amendments that were going to be
- 16 suggested.
- Q. Well, I didn't ask my question very well,
- 18 so forgive me.
- 19 OrthoIllinois submitted -- first
- 20 submitted applications with regard to the subject
- 21 parcel in early September, correct?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. And do you have a recollection or an
- 24 understanding as to how City staff responded to the
- 25 initial submission in terms of whether that

- 1 submission was complete or not?
- 2 A. Yes, so they -- they had questions. So
- 3 they had questions about our application which is
- 4 why we had a follow-up phone call with Drew to
- 5 address those with the development team.
- 6 O. Okay. And when did that call occur?
- 7 A. It was November 2nd.
- 8 Q. What do you remember about that call? Who
- 9 said what to whom?
- 10 A. So it was myself. It was Don Schreiner,
- 11 who was there at the time. We had Dave Mikos and
- 12 Mike Hurt from our architect team, and we started
- 13 off with there was a series of building questions
- 14 that our architects reviewed with Drew after which
- 15 we brought up the fact that the department of health
- 16 let us know that there's no nursing beds available,
- 17 therefore, we followed the logic, which has been
- 18 discussed today, of our intent to seek RCAC
- 19 registration so that we can provide overnight care
- 20 for the patients in our care suites. That was the
- 21 gist of the conversation.
- 22 Q. Okay. So let me back up and review some
- 23 of the testimony that we've heard already today and
- 24 make sure whether you share the understanding that
- 25 other people have given or not.

- 1 You don't dispute that when
- 2 OrthoIllinois initially submitted plans for approval
- 3 for this subject parcel, those plans indicated that
- 4 the uses would be an ASC, coupled with nursing home
- 5 uses?
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Leading.
- 7 Compound.
- 8 MR. FLEMING: I don't know about compound,
- 9 but it is -- it is leading.
- 10 BY MR. DILLON:
- 11 Q. Do you remember what the initial proposed
- 12 uses were with OrthoIllinois' first submitted plans?
- 13 A. ASC and nursing home.
- Q. Did there come a point in time when that
- 15 changed?
- 16 A. That did.
- Q. Why did it change and when did it change?
- 18 A. It changed around the time when the
- 19 department of health sent a letter and let us know
- 20 that there's no nursing beds available.
- Q. Okay. What, if anything, did the OI --
- 22 strike that.
- 23 Do you -- does OrthoIllinois consider
- 24 any group of people to be involved in a development
- 25 team on this project?

- 1 A. We do. We have a large development team.
- 2 So we've engaged a consultant named Revo Health
- 3 since the beginning. They're helping us with both
- 4 of our surgery centers, and we've been following
- 5 their recommendation on how to license both the ASC,
- 6 as well as the care suite entity. Revo Health, just
- 7 for context, that's Twin City Orthopedics, a group
- 8 out of Minnesota. They manage and operate multiple
- 9 surgery centers with care suites attached.
- 10 O. And with regard to interactions with the
- 11 City of Beloit, who are the members of the OI
- 12 development team who have interacted with the City
- 13 of Beloit, to your knowledge?
- A. So myself and Don on that call; our
- 15 architects; Rebecca Wilkins, who's on Revo Health,
- 16 interacted with the City.
- 17 Q. Okay. So following your being advised by
- 18 DHS that there are no nursing home beds available,
- 19 what happened next?
- 20 A. So when that notice came, we worked with
- 21 our consultants, and they were the ones who
- 22 recommended RCAC, and so we started going that path.
- 23 We had the call with Drew. We explained that.
- 24 There was no concern from the City's perspective,
- 25 and so we proceeded in that manner.

- 1 Q. And during the call that you had with
- 2 Mr. Pennington, who attended the call on behalf of
- 3 OI's development team?
- 4 A. Myself, Don Schreiner and then our
- 5 architects.
- Q. And who were they?
- 7 A. Dave Mikos and Mike Hurt.
- 8 Q. And prior to the call, did you or anybody
- 9 else on the development team prepare any documents
- 10 relating to the zoning analysis?
- 11 A. Of the development team? Yeah, so Revo
- 12 Health did. So Revo Health, they engaged. There
- 13 was an analysis put together on RCAC and how that
- 14 fits with the proposed zoning.
- 15 Q. Okay. And what, if anything, do you
- 16 recall about whether and to what extent you or
- 17 anybody else on the OI development team who was
- 18 approaching Mr. Pennington this fall had any
- 19 analysis in hand to reference during the call?
- 20 A. We did have that analysis in hand and
- 21 walked Mr. Pennington through that analysis.
- Q. What do you recall that analysis
- 23 consisting of when you're talking about you
- 24 referring to it?
- 25 A. It was a logic of how patients who stay

- 1 less than 30 days, they're classified under group
- 2 living as a hotel/motel use, and that's permitted in
- 3 C-3 zoning.
- Q. I didn't ask my question very well, but
- 5 what I'm driving at, and I apologize, was it in the
- 6 form of a memo? Was it just a discussion that you
- 7 had? Was it something else that you had that you
- 8 were referring to?
- 9 A. It was an e-mail communication.
- 10 Q. All right. I want to direct your
- 11 attention to our Exhibit 11, which is at 660 which
- 12 I'm looking up now. You should be able to find it
- 13 in front of you.
- 14 A. Yep. 660?
- 15 Q. Yes, sir.
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 Q. Do you recognize that document?
- 18 A. If I'm looking at the correct one, it's a
- 19 location map, 1650 --
- Q. I'm sorry, I gave you our OI Bates number.
- 21 I made the same mistake. I meant to say or direct
- 22 your attention to agenda packet page number 1751.
- A. What page is that on?
- 24 Q. 1,751.
- 25 A. Okay. Let me -- got it.

- 1 Q. Do you recognize that document?
- 2 A. I do.
- 3 Q. What is it?
- 4 A. This is the analysis that was put together
- 5 on the RCAC.
- 6 Q. Okay. And to what extent, if any, was the
- 7 content of that e-mail reviewed with Mr. -- let me
- 8 ask this question first.
- 9 Did you ever provide a copy of that
- 10 e-mail to Mr. Pennington?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. During your call with Mr. Pennington on
- 13 November 2, to what extent, if any, was the
- 14 substance of that e-mail discussed with
- 15 Mr. Pennington?
- MR. FEELEY: Objection. The e-mail is
- 17 hearsay.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, we're not bound by the
- 19 rules of evidence. You can answer.
- THE WITNESS: So this was not shared, and
- 21 if my memory serves, one of our architects walked
- 22 through the logic that's found in this e-mail with
- 23 Mr. Pennington.
- 24 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. Did Mr. Pennington express to OI's

- 1 development team during that call any viewpoints
- 2 about what he thought the overnight stay rooms
- 3 would -- strike that.
- 4 During your call, did Mr. Pennington
- 5 express any opinions as to whether and to what
- 6 extent those overnight stay rooms could be permitted
- 7 under the zoning ordinance?
- 8 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Calls for
- 9 hearsay.
- 10 MR. FLEMING: Same ruling.
- MR. DILLON: You can answer the question.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yeah, deemed accessory use
- 13 was the word that was used on the call.
- 14 BY MR. DILLON:
- 15 Q. And then following that call, did you
- 16 personally have occasion to review any of the
- documents that OI's development team submitted to
- 18 the City in furtherance of your application to
- 19 develop this project?
- 20 A. Yes, I saw the documents when they were
- 21 submitted.
- 22 Q. Okay. And as you sit here today, do you
- 23 recall whether or to what extent the use for the
- 24 overnight care suites, the description of that use
- 25 was changed?

- 1 A. I don't recall, no.
- 2 Q. Let's talk about how the ASC use and the
- 3 overnight stay use, to the extent that that actually
- 4 unfolds, will actually be conducted by
- 5 OrthoIllinois. First of all, with regard to the
- 6 ASC --
- 7 A. Yep.
- 8 Q. -- what entity will be operating the ASC?
- 9 A. OrthoWisconsin Surgery Center, LLC.
- 10 Q. Okay. And is that a Wisconsin entity?
- 11 Illinois entity?
- 12 A. It's a Wisconsin entity.
- Q. And will that same entity be operating the
- 14 overnight care rooms?
- 15 A. No.
- Q. What entity will operate the overnight
- 17 care rooms?
- 18 A. Beloit Care Suites, LLC.
- 19 Q. Has that entity been formed?
- 20 A. It has.
- Q. And where is that entity formed?
- 22 A. Wisconsin.
- Q. And why is that? Why would -- why would
- 24 the overnight care suites be operated by a separate
- 25 entity?

- 1 A. You can't have the same entity operate
- 2 both, so we have two separate entities operating
- 3 each facility.
- 4 Q. And when you say you can't have the same
- 5 entity do that, what is your understanding when you
- 6 say that based upon?
- 7 A. Regulation from how Medicare and how ASCs
- 8 are regulated, also how RCACs are regulated. You
- 9 can't have another entity operate them.
- 10 O. Do you have an understanding about whether
- 11 it is possible, putting aside for the moment what is
- 12 desirable, is it possible for an entity to operate a
- 13 ambulatory surgery center that does not accept
- 14 Medicare payments?
- 15 A. It is possible. I mean, you can operate
- 16 that with just commercial patients for cash pay.
- 17 O. Does OrthoIllinois do that?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Why not?
- 20 A. Medicare is a big portion of our business.
- Q. Okay. So with regard to the ASC that
- 22 you're proposing to develop here in Beloit --
- A. Yeah.
- Q. -- do you have any plans with regard to --
- 25 well, strike that.

- 1 Do you have an understanding about
- 2 what it takes to be approved as a Medicare --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- certified or approved ASC?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Relevance.
- 7 MR. FLEMING: Well, I take these questions
- 8 as going towards what the property is going to be --
- 9 background on how the property is being used.
- 10 MR. DILLON: It also goes directly to one
- 11 of the arguments that we need to have separate uses,
- 12 and we have to be --
- MR. FLEMING: Well, yeah, it seems you've
- 14 been touching on it, but more broadly speaking, he's
- 15 talking about how the property is being used, so I
- 16 think it is relevant.
- 17 MR. DILLON: You can answer the question.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Can you repeat the question,
- 19 please?
- MR. DILLON: Can you read it back, please,
- 21 ma'am?
- 22 (Whereupon, the record was read
- by the reporter.)
- 24 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. Okay. Where did that understanding come

- 1 from?
- 2 A. What we've done with our center in
- 3 Rockford.
- 4 Q. Okay. And what is your understanding?
- 5 A. It's a lengthy process to get Medicare
- 6 accreditation. So once the center is open, there's
- 7 a lengthy building, like, science, actual prevention
- 8 review. We have to treat ten patients, and then
- 9 after that, then Medicare has an accrediting body.
- 10 We use AAAHC. They'll come in, and they do a very
- 11 thorough review of our facility, our protocols, our
- 12 processes, how we operate, and how we tend to
- 13 operate. And then depending on the outcome of that
- 14 survey, we will receive accreditation from Medicare
- 15 so that we can treat Medicare patients and bill
- 16 Medicare patients.
- 17 Q. All right. And with respect to the Beloit
- 18 facility, do you have a plan for how you will seek
- 19 accreditation?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. What is that plan?
- 22 A. Similar to what I offered. So once we
- 23 open, we need to treat ten patients first, which we
- 24 will do. After we treat ten patients, we will give
- 25 notification to AAAHC, which is Medicare's

- 1 organization. They will schedule an on-site visit,
- 2 and they will bring a team of surveyors. They will
- 3 come and survey our facility, go through all of our
- 4 books, look at our policies, protocols, how we built
- 5 the building and its specifications, and depending
- 6 on how that survey goes and if we meet their
- 7 approval, then we will get Medicare accreditation.
- 8 Q. Is your project to build an ASC here in
- 9 Beloit in OrthoIllinois' opinion, fiscally possible
- 10 if you do not secure Medicare accreditation?
- 11 A. No. No.
- 12 Q. Why not?
- 13 A. Medicare -- so that center is going to be
- 14 solely for total joint and spine procedures, and
- 15 it's going to be a single specialty procedure. All
- 16 of our procedures in Illinois will be brought to
- 17 that facility to have those procedures done, and
- 18 that demographic, I mean we're talking maybe 50, 60
- 19 higher percentage of those patients are Medicare
- 20 age. So it would just not be viable to operate a
- 21 center without Medicare.
- 22 Q. All right. So then as part of your plans,
- 23 do you have any -- is there any element of your plan
- 24 that focuses on not just getting accredited through
- 25 Medicare, but continued compliance with Medicare

- 1 requirements?
- 2 A. Absolutely. We have a whole team
- 3 dedicated that we're -- I mean, it's an ongoing
- 4 accreditation where we make sure that we're always
- 5 in rules -- in line with Medicare accreditation, and
- 6 we can meet that survey.
- 7 Q. Do you have an understanding about what
- 8 happens to a Medicare approved or certified ASC
- 9 if -- well, strike that.
- 10 Once it's approved, are there
- 11 reaccreditation processes?
- 12 A. There are.
- 13 Q. And what do those consist of?
- MR. FEELEY: Same objection. Relevance.
- MR. FLEMING: Overruled.
- THE WITNESS: Every three years there's
- 17 that same survey where they come through, and they
- 18 look at everything, our policies, our procedures.
- 19 They do surveys of patients to make sure that
- 20 everything that we're doing is in line with Medicare
- 21 regulations and rules.
- 22 BY MR. DILLON:
- Q. Do you have an understanding what can
- 24 happen to an accredited -- a Medicare accredited ASC
- 25 if upon a review or upon a complaint it is

- 1 determined that the ASC is treating patients for
- 2 more than 24 hours?
- 3 MR. FEELEY: Objection. Relevance.
- 4 Sounds like this is the same call for a legal
- 5 conclusion that should be found in the regulations.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: How much more of this --
- 7 MR. DILLON: I'm basically almost done.
- 8 MR. FLEMING: You know, these seem to be
- 9 similar questions to what you were asking about just
- 10 how the -- how the use is going, so I'm considering
- 11 these to be questions about understanding about how
- 12 the property is going to be used. I understand they
- 13 reference regulations, but let's -- let's wrap this
- 14 up.
- MR. DILLON: Agreed.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, we could lose our
- 17 license to treat Medicare patients.
- 18 BY MR. DILLON:
- 19 Q. With regard to the theory that the
- 20 overnight care suites will be -- could be registered
- 21 as a residential care apartment complex or RCAC, do
- 22 you have an understanding of what OI has to do to
- 23 secure that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. What is your understanding?

- 1 A. There's an application that we file with
- 2 the department of health, and they have certain
- 3 requirements to have an RCAC that is registered, so
- 4 we have to file those requirements. It goes to
- 5 them, they review them, and then they approve them.
- 6 Q. And do you have a -- I presume that if you
- 7 get approved, you will operate this is as an RCAC,
- 8 true?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And what happens if you apply for that
- 11 registration or accreditation and the State turns
- 12 you down? What will you do then?
- A. We won't operate it as an RCAC, so those
- 14 rooms will stay vacant.
- MR. DILLON: Thank you. No further
- 16 questions.
- MR. ROTH: I have no questions.
- MR. FLEMING: Cross-examination?
- MR. FEELEY: I have a couple.
- 20 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. FEELEY:
- 22 Q. Thank you, Mr. Brown.
- So if I understand you correctly,
- 24 the -- we've been calling the six-room lodging
- 25 suites, do you understand what I'm talking about?

- 1 A. I do.
- 2 Q. Is a separate LLC from the ambulatory
- 3 surgery center?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. And it will also be operated by an entity
- 6 different than OrthoIllinois or Rockford Orthopedic
- 7 Associates?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. So you agree with me that the six room --
- 10 six rooms is a separate use from the ambulatory
- 11 surgery center; is that correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- MR. DILLON: Objection. Vague.
- MR. FEELEY: Is that correct?
- MR. FLEMING: Did you understand the
- 16 question?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I did. I think what
- 18 you're getting at, yeah, I mean, we have the surgery
- 19 center on one side, and then the patients that
- 20 require an overnight stay will have that at the
- 21 other side.
- 22 BY MR. FEELEY:
- Q. And that would occur when they're
- 24 discharged, when the physician signs the discharge
- 25 order to leave the ASC and go into this separate

- 1 use, correct?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 MR. FEELEY: Nothing else.
- 4 MR. FLEMING: Any questions from the
- 5 board?
- 6 (No questions asked by the
- 7 board.)
- 8 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 9 (Mr. Brown excused.)
- 10 MR. FLEMING: Any rebuttal witnesses?
- 11 MR. ROTH: The City doesn't intend to call
- 12 anyone on rebuttal. I do have some closing
- 13 arguments.
- MR. FLEMING: Yeah, closing arguments is
- 15 the last.
- Any other witnesses, rebuttal witnesses,
- 17 from any party?
- 18 (No witnesses called.)
- MR. FLEMING: Seeing none, we've already
- 20 done the statements of opinion neighbors, so right
- 21 now we've got closing statements, and I guess maybe
- 22 first I'll broach this to the board. Do we want to
- 23 take opening (sic) statements now or will the board
- 24 maybe want to hear and see a more detailed argument
- 25 from the parties in writing? We can take closing --

- 1 we can basically take closing arguments now, but
- 2 we've heard a lot of evidence. We've heard a lot of
- 3 legal conclusions and everything. This may be a
- 4 case where you might want to consider instead of
- 5 hearing oral arguments, would you prefer to see
- 6 written arguments from the parties? We can hear
- 7 oral arguments as well, but this is a little more
- 8 complicated case that's why I'm suggesting it, that
- 9 that is an option to the board.
- 10 MR. BAKER: I think I'd prefer the oral.
- 11 MR. PETERSEN: I agree.
- MR. FLEMING: That's set then. Let's hear
- 13 closing statements. We'll start with the City.
- MR. ROTH: Thank you. We've been here for
- 15 a long time, so I will do my best to be brief and to
- 16 the point.
- 17 I want to -- I want to end where I started
- 18 with reemphasizing what we're here to do tonight and
- 19 what the board's role is. The board's role is to
- 20 sit in the zoning officer's shoes, and you are
- 21 essentially making the decision in the first
- instance, is this property approvable under the
- 23 current zoning.
- 24 MR. FEELEY: Actually, yeah, I have to
- 25 object, for the record, because they are not to sit

- 1 in the zoning officer's shoes. They are to
- 2 determine whether or not the zoning officer
- 3 followed --
- 4 MR. FLEMING: The board has -- the board
- 5 has all the same powers to do what it wishes to do
- 6 as the zoning administrator. So it can affirm,
- 7 reverse or modify. So I think that's an accurate
- 8 statement that they have pretty broad discretion.
- 9 MR. ROTH: It's this board's job to
- 10 determine whether the property as -- or whether the
- 11 project, as proposed, fits within the current
- 12 zoning, which is C-3. And so what I submit to you
- 13 is that we heard some testimony about the
- 14 decision-making process that the City made, decided
- 15 this was a medical facility with an accessory use
- 16 involving these overnight suites. But this board
- 17 can take any number of approaches to get to that
- 18 result. It is not limited to the single route that
- 19 you heard tonight that the City actually took. So I
- 20 just, I want to frame that for you right up front.
- I'll move on very briefly to the
- 22 comprehensive plan issue that we've been discussing.
- 23 I think it's very clear as a matter of state law
- 24 that when the City enacts a comprehensive plan, it
- 25 does not automatically rezone the entire City, which

- is essentially the thrust of BHS's argument here,
- 2 that when the City enacted the comp plan, every
- 3 single parcel was rezoned immediately based on the
- 4 future use map in the comp plan. That's -- frankly,
- 5 it's absurd. I mean, if you look at the comp plan,
- 6 it's very, very clear that the future land uses are
- 7 just that. They're recommendations for how, as the
- 8 City develops its zoning as time goes on when it
- 9 rezones properties, that that must be done in
- 10 conformance with the comprehensive plan. But state
- 11 law is very, very clear that when a comprehensive
- 12 plan is enacted, all the existing zoning remains the
- 13 same. And so the argument that somehow when the
- 14 City evaluated this specific proposal, that it had
- 15 to conform to the comp plan is just completely
- 16 unsupported in state law. And I'll move on to the
- 17 final topic.
- We've heard a lot here tonight about the
- 19 housing component of this project, and, again, I
- 20 think it's very important to emphasize there's been
- 21 absolutely no argument that I've heard or any
- 22 testimony that casts any doubt on the ambulatory
- 23 surgery center part of this project, that it's very,
- 24 very clear a permitted use in C-3. There's not been
- 25 a single argument that it's not. So just to be very

- 1 clear, really the only thing in dispute here is the
- 2 six lodging suites that are part of this project.
- 3 And so as the City has explained in its papers, we
- 4 think there are three different routes that this
- 5 board can take to approve the entire project, the
- 6 ASC and the accompanying lodging suites.
- 7 The first route is to consider the entire
- 8 project as a medical facility. And if you look at
- 9 the ordinance, how it defines medical facility,
- 10 that's the use that's permitted in a C-3 zone, among
- 11 many others, but that's one of them. A medical
- 12 facility has a certain set of defined
- 13 characteristics, and I read them to you. I won't
- 14 bore you again with the details. But the only thing
- 15 that matters is does the proposed project fit within
- 16 that set of characteristics? And I think it's clear
- 17 that it does. BHS's argument is, well, you know,
- 18 one of the examples of a medical facility is an
- 19 ambulatory surgery center, and you can't have an
- 20 ambulatory surgery center along with anything else,
- 21 for example, lodging suites.
- Even if you grant that that's true, we
- 23 disagree with it, but even if you grant that that's
- 24 true, an ambulatory surgery center is simply one
- 25 kind of a medical facility that you can build on a

- 1 C-3 zone. It's just an example. There's a list of
- 2 examples. It's not an exhaustive list. The only
- 3 material question is does the project fit within the
- 4 set of characteristics set forth in the ordinance.
- 5 I think it clearly does.
- 6 Moving on to the second route that this
- 7 board can take is the accessory use route. Again,
- 8 accessory uses are listed in the ordinance. There's
- 9 a set of examples that explore certain kinds of
- 10 accessory uses that can accompany the primary use.
- 11 If you look at the ordinance again, it mentions
- 12 lodging. It's very clear that's what's going on
- 13 here. The only other argument that we heard from
- 14 BHS is that accessory uses must be detached from the
- 15 primary use. I think it's very, very clear, if you
- 16 look through the zoning ordinance, there are many,
- 17 many, many examples of accessory uses that simply
- 18 could not be detached from the primary use. It just
- 19 inherently cannot be the case. I'll give you one
- 20 example, and you can look this up on your own time.
- 21 One of the use categories is household living. A
- 22 house, right? One of the accessory uses is, I
- 23 believe it's pets. You can have pets. Clearly the
- 24 rule isn't that your doghouse needs to be separate,
- 25 and you can only keep your dog in a separate

- 1 facility from your main house. I mean, clearly that
- 2 accessory use is going to be in the same structure
- 3 as the primary use. And so I think if you look at
- 4 the zoning ordinance as a whole, it's very clear
- 5 that accessory uses do not need to be physically
- 6 detached from the primary structure. And -- so
- 7 that's route two. So route one was the whole thing
- 8 with the medical facility. Route two is that
- 9 there's a permitted accessory use for these
- 10 overnight suites.
- 11 And route three is the group living
- 12 provision that explains if tenancy is less than
- 13 30 days, that it is automatically deemed a hotel or
- 14 motel use, which is yet another permitted use in a
- 15 C-3 zone. So I think there are three independent
- 16 routes that this board can take to get to approval
- 17 of the entire project, including the lodging suites.
- So that's all I have. I'm happy to answer
- 19 questions, but if not, thank you for your time.
- MR. BAKER: Thank you.
- MR. FEELEY: So let me address the
- 22 comprehensive plan issue first.
- The Appellants have not argued that the
- 24 comprehensive plan rezones everything. The
- 25 argument, and the record will bear this out, is that

- 1 the statute says one thing, the City of Beloit has
- 2 the authority and power to make the comprehensive
- 3 plan applicable in additional circumstances than as
- 4 required by the statute. That has been the
- 5 argument, and the plan language bears that out.
- 6 Now, you can read the plan language. Like I
- 7 mentioned before, it says it applies to all private
- 8 and public developments, and when you think about
- 9 this, you had neighbors that voiced an opinion
- 10 tonight. All the City had to do was reach out to
- 11 the neighbors and say our future land use plan calls
- 12 for this to be a mixed residential use. There's a
- developer that wants to come in and build a large
- 14 26,000 square foot medical facility that's going to
- 15 be potentially operating 24/7, do you have a problem
- 16 with that, the lighting, the parking lot, the
- 17 additional traffic. There was no effort made to do
- 18 that whatsoever. And that would have been
- 19 consistent with one of the policies of the
- 20 comprehensive plan. Ultimately, the City may have
- 21 concluded, after doing that, that they were going to
- 22 permit the development anyway. But that doesn't
- 23 mean they could bypass that step, not if the plan
- 24 required them to take that type of action.
- 25 The other issue I want to talk about is

- 1 you were all present when Drew Pennington testified.
- 2 You've heard the board's attorney confirm that what
- 3 he heard Mr. Pennington testify was that it was
- 4 approved as an accessory use. What you can't do, no
- 5 disrespect, but the board doesn't have authority to
- 6 come up with some other solution to this and say,
- 7 well, he could have approved it as this, even though
- 8 he didn't consider it at the time. He could have
- 9 approved it as this option if he didn't, even though
- 10 he didn't consider it at the time. He approved it
- 11 as an accessory use. So the option -- the other two
- 12 options that are being proposed by the City attorney
- or counsel for the city, sorry, are not applicable.
- 14 That's what I meant when I objected and said the
- 15 board cannot stand in the shoes of Mr. Pennington
- 16 and come up with solutions to this that
- 17 Mr. Pennington did not make and did not consider and
- 18 did not base his approval on when he issued his
- 19 approval on January 14th. He said it was an
- 20 accessory use. He's bound by the ordinances. The
- 21 ordinance say specific provisions control over the
- 22 general. There is no listed accessory use to
- 23 cover -- what Mr. Brown talked about is a separate
- 24 use. I just asked him that question. It's going to
- 25 be operated by a separate entity. It's separate.

- 1 He agreed with that.
- 2 You heard Mr. Pennington say he wasn't
- 3 going to approve this as a residential care
- 4 apartment complex and told OrthoIllinois that,
- 5 because a residential care apartment complex is a
- 6 principal use. If it's an accessory use, it has to
- 7 meet the requirements of the ordinance. The
- 8 requirements of the ordinance, as written,
- 9 regardless of whether or not Mr. Pennington says it
- 10 doesn't make sense, there's other solutions.
- 11 And then, finally, the reference to the
- 12 pets has to do with a home occupation where the home
- 13 occupation is considered to be an animal care or
- 14 boarding facility. That's something you don't put
- 15 in your home. Thank you.
- MR. DILLON: I will try to keep my
- 17 comments as brief as possible.
- 18 We have submitted to the board proposed
- 19 findings of fact and conclusions of law, which you
- 20 will have to issue a written decision and go into
- 21 closed session anyway. That is in the record. As
- 22 my closing argument, I would adopt, by reference,
- 23 paragraphs 39 through 59 of our submission, and I
- 24 will not read that to you because you can read that
- 25 yourself and understand what it says. But what I

- 1 would also do -- but to be clear, that would be our
- 2 argument if I were to verbalize it and just dispense
- 3 with saying all that, I would just refer you to that
- 4 instead.
- 5 But I would note a couple of points of
- 6 emphasis. And I don't often make these kinds of
- 7 statements in filings that I file with courts or
- 8 bodies like you, but I want to focus on what I've
- 9 pointed out in paragraph -- we have the burden of
- 10 proof in this case. We agree with everything
- 11 counsel for the City said, and our submissions say
- 12 the same thing. We are in agreement on that, so we
- 13 adopt the City's arguments as well. We stand
- 14 together on this.
- What I want to address is why this appeal
- 16 lacked merit and has always lacked merit. I think
- 17 the record already shows we have met the burden
- 18 here. First, as we note in paragraph 58, and as
- 19 this record shows, BHS's appeal documents, if you
- 20 look at what they've submitted, over and over and
- 21 over again talk about what your comprehensive plan
- 22 says. And there is black letter statutory law that
- 23 says that comprehensive plan has no bearing on what
- 24 you folks decide. It is irrelevant. To the extent
- 25 that it's in their paperwork, to the extent that

- 1 we've talked about it, it is irrelevant.
- This body -- and I need -- in our view, I
- 3 won't correct what I think was a misstatement. I
- 4 will say what our statement of the law is. We rely
- 5 on Wis. Stat Section 62.23, Subsection 8 which
- 6 states "In exercising the powers that are afforded
- 7 to you as a body, as a zoning board of appeals, you
- 8 may, in conformity with the provisions of such
- 9 section," which is referring to your ordinance,
- 10 "reverse or affirm wholly or partly or may modify
- 11 the order, requirement, decision or determination
- 12 appealed from," which in this case would be
- 13 Mr. Pennington's decision, "and you may make such
- 14 order, requirement, decision or determination as
- 15 ought to be made, and to that end shall have all the
- 16 powers of the officer from whom the appeal is taken
- 17 and may issue or direct the issue of a permit." And
- 18 the reason that I chose to read that to you, despite
- 19 the fact that I just told you I wasn't going to read
- 20 you everything, is because you just heard from BHS's
- 21 counsel, that that is not the law. Even now, we are
- 22 here after hours of hearing, we have 2,000 pages of
- 23 documents in this record, and BHS's counsel is
- 24 arguing that you should ignore this law. This
- 25 doesn't apply to you. It does apply to you. This

- 1 is a body of conscientious citizens who are only --
- 2 you only have the power the statute and the
- 3 ordinance gives you. The statute says what it says.
- 4 The ordinance says what it says, and it is
- 5 astonishing after all the trees that were killed in
- 6 furtherance of this record, that BHS's counsel is
- 7 still not acknowledging what the law says. That
- 8 said -- and we've emphasized that in other findings
- 9 here, but what's notable is despite getting here to
- 10 the end of the line, BHS is still not acknowledging
- 11 that. I think you should take that into account in
- 12 assessing the rest of their arguments.
- The other arguments that we make here,
- 14 BHS's appeal -- BHS has appealed to you and said
- 15 this is not somehow a use that you can allow, but
- 16 they have offered you no analysis of the use table
- 17 that says that a medical facility is a permitted use
- 18 in C-3 zones. They have -- they acknowledge in
- 19 their filings that this is zoned C-3, and yet
- 20 somehow argue that the ASC is not a permitted use.
- 21 It is a permitted use full stop. There's no further
- 22 analysis to be had there. The argument doesn't
- 23 compute. The argument doesn't track. The argument
- 24 has no basis in fact. The argument has no basis in
- 25 law.

- 1 As I mentioned in my opening, the thrust
- of BHS's appeal relates to these overnight care
- 3 suites. I think we all understand that now. And
- 4 you heard from Mr. Brown of what the plan is for
- 5 those, and you heard that OI will not be operating
- 6 those unless they are licensed or registered as an
- 7 RCAC. And you've seen in the paperwork, and the
- 8 City staff, although Mr. Pennington testified he
- 9 didn't agree with it initially, the City's
- 10 submission to this body now does agree with the
- 11 analysis that Beloit Health System's -- or not
- 12 Beloit Health System's, forgive me -- that OI's
- development team gave to Mr. Pennington in this
- 14 November 2, 2021 discussion.
- So the record shows OI has never played
- 16 games with the zoning ordinance. OI filed its
- 17 application, engaged in a consultive process with
- 18 Mr. Pennington, surfaced this notion of how zoning
- 19 would be approved as an RCAC, and that analysis was
- 20 laid out in his paperwork. It was never hidden from
- 21 Mr. Pennington. Mr. Pennington decided and advised
- 22 them in that meeting that he was taking the view
- 23 that this was an accessory use, which we think is
- 24 supportable. And for that reason, the paperwork
- 25 changed. The submissions changed after that.

- 1 However, whether you get there with -- Mr. Roth --
- 2 the City's counsel has already explained the
- 3 different paths you can get there. You can get
- 4 there multiple different ways. And you have not
- 5 heard any argument from BHS as to why you can't.
- 6 What you've heard is speculation about what this use
- 7 might be, and you've heard legal argument that it
- 8 does not meet these requirements, but it does.
- 9 It's for all those reasons we would ask
- 10 you to please approve this use and allow us to go
- 11 forward and sustain Mr. Pennington's decision on all
- 12 of the basis -- all of the bases that have been
- 13 cited by the City and by us. Thank you.
- 14 MR. FLEMING: That concludes the hearing
- 15 portion of this. It is now almost 20 to 11:00. We
- 16 move on to the deliberation portion. So as I think
- 17 all the counsel have been advised, ultimately this
- 18 body is going to have to produce a written
- 19 determination, and that's not likely to happen
- 20 tonight. We can certainly begin the deliberations
- 21 tonight, if you want, but another option, you know,
- 22 given that we're going to have to have another --
- 23 another meeting to at least approve some findings,
- 24 and I think there are probably a number of facts and
- 25 things that were done where I can begin to prepare

- 1 some alternatives that we can discuss and maybe
- 2 still produce a written document. What I'm getting
- 3 at is does the board want to begin doing some
- 4 deliberations tonight and get some direction, or
- 5 given the hour, would you prefer to adjourn for
- 6 another time to conduct deliberations and
- 7 potentially make a decision?
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Adjourn at this
- 9 time and then come back later?
- 10 MR. FLEMING: Is the idea to adjourn then
- 11 to your next regularly scheduled meeting or would
- 12 you want to set --
- MR. PETERSEN: We should set a date to go
- 14 over this before our next meeting at least.
- MR. FLEMING: Well, certainly. I mean, in
- 16 the interim, I mean, you have the materials. The
- 17 record is before you. You have the arguments and
- 18 your notes. You can begin considering those, and I
- 19 think you should, in the interim, begin thinking
- 20 about things, develop your ideas and be prepared to
- 21 discuss them, but, you know, our next meeting will
- 22 be a deliberation where we will go into closed
- 23 session and see where all of this goes. And, like I
- 24 said, I will do my best to be sort of prepared to
- 25 hopefully be able to produce a written document

- 1 after that. We'll be in a better position to do
- 2 that. So the only real question is whether you want
- 3 to be looking at your next regularly scheduled
- 4 meeting or if we want to pull out our calendars and
- 5 find a special date. I don't know what -- if
- 6 anybody has any idea about what might be on or
- 7 needed of you at your regular meeting. I understand
- 8 the next regular meeting would be May 10th.
- 9 Drew, do you have anything that you know
- 10 of on the horizon?
- MR. PENNINGTON: Nothing has been filed,
- 12 and the deadline is the 14th.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay. So if we're fairly
- 14 comfortable in two more days that no one is going to
- 15 file anything, it seems like you have some room on
- 16 the 10th without having to schedule anything
- 17 special. I'll have to find somebody to cover my
- 18 other meeting that night, but that shouldn't be a
- 19 problem.
- 20 MR. FEELEY: How do you want to handle
- 21 exhibits in terms of moving them into evidence?
- 22 MR. ROTH: Well, my view is, the board is
- 23 not bound by strict rules of evidence. It's not
- 24 limited to consideration such as would be admissible
- 25 in a court of law. I mean, if you stipulate to the

- 1 authenticity of everything, I mean, I'm not really
- 2 sure what more there is to do in reference to
- 3 tonight. I don't know. I mean, what do you think
- 4 needs to be done?
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Yeah, no, I mean, I'm talking
- 6 about the rules also state that you can't rely upon
- 7 hearsay solely for a finding.
- 8 MR. FLEMING: Right.
- 9 MR. FEELEY: And, I mean, if an exhibit
- 10 wasn't introduced, I mean, the record is separate,
- 11 the administrative record is one thing, but if
- 12 somebody produced an exhibit that wasn't used during
- 13 the hearing --
- MR. FLEMING: Well, I would suggest that
- anything outside of what is the administrative
- 16 record that an exhibit that was not brought up at
- 17 the hearing that nobody testified to, probably
- 18 should not be -- should not be relied upon.
- 19 MR. ROTH: I think his point is when he
- 20 says "the record," he means the documents that are
- 21 the City's Bates-stamped documents that he provided
- 22 to the board.
- MR. FLEMING: Right.
- MR. ROTH: And I think he's distinguishing
- 25 that from the other exhibits that Ortho offered and

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1 that BHS offered. And I think the objection could
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- 2 potentially be if any of those exhibits were not
- 3 used at the hearing, that the board shouldn't rely
- 4 on them in making its decision. Is that the idea?
- 5 MR. FEELEY: Yes.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: That was my understanding.
- 7 MR. ROTH: The City certainly didn't rely
- 8 on anything other than what was in the records,
- 9 so -- or, you know, ordinances and the like --
- 10 MR. FLEMING: Right. Yeah, I don't feel
- 11 constrained by these documents for what the law is.
- 12 We can refer to ordinances and statutes. That's not
- 13 a concern of mine. So if I understand right,
- 14 everything that was the City's Bates stamped, that
- 15 was intended to be the administrative record that is
- 16 all in evidence can be relied upon. Any other
- 17 documents that were not testified to tonight, will
- 18 not be considered in evidence.
- 19 MR. DILLON: And, for the record, we've
- 20 Bates stamped anything that our witnesses discussed.
- 21 MR. FLEMING: I will consider anything --
- 22 I didn't hear any objections to the documents, so I
- 23 will consider anything that was testified to to be
- 24 moved into evidence. Thanks for the clarification.
- So did we -- does May 10th look --

- 1 MR. PETERSEN: I'll make it work.
- 2 MR. FLEMING: Okay.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: Regular time? At
- 4 7:00?
- 5 MR. PETERSEN: I think we should be fine.
- 6 MR. BAKER: I may not be able to be here
- 7 on the 10th. If we're planting corn, I won't be
- 8 here.
- 9 MS. ADAMS: Can we meet another date?
- 10 MR. PETERSEN: You mean before that time?
- 11 Do you have a time frame that you're open?
- MR. BAKER: Within the next week,
- 13 certainly.
- MR. FLEMING: So if we're looking --
- MR. PETERSEN: I'd prefer it after the
- 16 19th.
- MS. ADAMS: After Easter then?
- MR. PETERSEN: Yeah.
- MS. ADAMS: You said you're going to be
- 20 gone when?
- MR. PETERSEN: He's got his planting
- 22 season coming up. You're working 18, 20-hour days.
- MR. BAKER: We work until it gets too dark
- 24 to see.
- MR. FLEMING: So the week -- the week of

- 1 the 18th I am available the 20th, 21st and 22nd.
- 2 MR. PETERSEN: The 20th looks good to me.
- MS. ADAMS: The 21st is better for me.
- 4 MR. BAKER: Next week on the 21st?
- 5 MR. FLEMING: I'm open on the 21st.
- 6 MR. PETERSEN: Are you open on the 21st?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PURVIANCE: What time? 6:00?
- 8 MR. FLEMING: 6:00 p.m.
- 9 MR. BAKER: Is there another baseball
- 10 game?
- MR. PETERSEN: Yeah, is that a baseball
- 12 game day?
- MR. PENNINGTON: I'd have to look.
- 14 MS. ADAMS: We have a ticket we can put on
- 15 the cars.
- MR. PENNINGTON: So just to clarify, we're
- 17 talking about next --
- MR. FLEMING: April 21st.
- 19 MR. PENNINGTON: -- reconvening next week?
- MR. FLEMING: Yes.
- MS. CHRISTENSEN: On which day?
- MR. PETERSEN: Thursday, the 21st.
- 23 MS. CHRISTENSEN: We can't count on these
- 24 rooms. There's municipal court.
- MR. PENNINGTON: At 6:00 p.m.?

- 1 MS. CHRISTENSEN: I'd have to check with
- 2 the court to see if there's any files from traffic.
- 3 MS. ADAMS: What did she say?
- 4 MR. PETERSEN: Trial with the court.
- 5 MR. FLEMING: We have to check with the
- 6 court to see if there are any municipal court
- 7 trials.
- 8 MS. CHRISTENSEN: Municipal court is on
- 9 Thursday, and if there's a trial at the end of the
- 10 day, these rooms aren't available, so I have to
- 11 check with municipal court to see if they have
- 12 anything scheduled.
- MS. ADAMS: Can we meet in the library?
- MR. PETERSEN: Are you flexible on the
- 15 21st?
- MS. ADAMS: I'm supposed to be helping
- 17 lead something at 7:00, but if we did it early
- 18 enough and got done by 7:00, I'd be okay.
- 19 MR. PENNINGTON: If this room is not
- 20 available, we have other alternatives, the public
- 21 library.
- 22 MR. FLEMING: Okay. Yeah, clearly we're
- 23 meeting in closed session, so we need a place that
- 24 is accessible so if people want to see us go into
- 25 closed session, they can, but, otherwise, we don't

- 1 need to host an audience, so I suggest we set --
- 2 look for a motion to adjourn to April 21st at 6:00
- 3 o'clock p.m. at a location to be determined.
- 4 MS. ADAMS: I so move.
- 5 MR. PETERSEN: I'll second that.
- 6 MR. FLEMING: All in favor.
- 7 (Whereupon, all the ayes were
- 8 heard.)
- 9 MR. ROTH: Just so I'm clear, maybe it's
- 10 obvious to everyone else. Do the attorneys need to
- 11 show up to that closed session?
- MR. FLEMING: No. It's just going to be
- 13 closed session deliberation.
- MR. ROTH: That was my understanding, but
- 15 I just wasn't sure. If you need us --
- MR. FLEMING: Yeah, we'll -- presumably
- 17 we'll either have a written decision that's ready
- 18 and we'll send it out immediately or we won't, but,
- 19 yeah. We won't be taking any other argument.
- MR. DILLON: Exhibits, typical handling of
- 21 the record? I don't have any problem leaving my set
- 22 of documents here. So how do you want to handle
- 23 that? Do you want to keep these?
- 24 MR. FLEMING: Anybody have a preference as
- 25 to what constitutes the official copy of the record

- 1 of this hearing?
- MR. FEELEY: So what actually happened,
- 3 all of the exhibits were essentially Bates stamped
- 4 in some order?
- 5 MR. FLEMING: Right.
- 6 MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- 7 MR. ROTH: Everything was combined into a
- 8 single PDF and uploaded.
- 9 MR. FEELEY: Okay.
- MR. ROTH: And all those, you see those
- 11 10, 15 separate documents --
- MR. FEELEY: Yeah.
- 13 MR. ROTH: -- those were all combined into
- 14 one and given a running -- another running footer,
- 15 and that's what was going on. That's why there was
- 16 confusion.
- 17 MR. DILLON: And because it includes the
- 18 Bates number from page 1 --
- MR. ROTH: Obviously the 1 to 2,000
- 20 differed from the internal system we used.
- 21 MR. FEELEY: Okay. I mean, if it's all in
- 22 one set of books, that's fine. I mean, my binder is
- 23 over there, I, you know --
- MR. DILLON: My point, Tim, is that it's
- 25 all in -- it's all in the City's public record

- 1 already --
- 2 MR. FEELEY: Yeah, no, okay. That's fine.
- 3 MR. DILLON: -- so I would just go to the
- 4 electronic is what I --
- 5 MR. FLEMING: That's kind of where I was
- 6 hoping we were going.
- 7 MR. ROTH: Yeah, I'm fine with the
- 8 electronic.
- 9 MR. FEELEY: Yeah. And I'm fine with
- 10 that, too.
- MR. FLEMING: Okay. Thank you.
- 12 Any other issues we need to take care of?
- MR. PETERSEN: Do you think I can get a --
- 14 you could send me a -- either give me a flash drive,
- 15 and I can take it home and that way I can write some
- 16 stuff up while I'm gone? Could I get a copy so I
- 17 could write some notes and stuff before we come
- 18 back?
- MR. PENNINGTON: A copy of?
- MS. ADAMS: The flash drive that you gave
- 21 me.
- MR. PENNINGTON: Oh. Yes.
- 23 MS. ADAMS: Can I keep this for -- until
- 24 next week or do you need it?
- MR. PENNINGTON: I'll help you -- I'll

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help you copy those on to your --
              MS. ADAMS: Okay.
 2
              MR. FLEMING: Can we do 6:30 on the 21st,
 3
    Thursday? Does that work for everyone rather than
    6:00?
 5
 6
              MR. PETERSEN: Yeah, I can make that work.
              MR. FLEMING: Thank you. I appreciate it.
 7
                         (Whereupon, at 10:50 p.m, the
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                         meeting was adjourned.)
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1	STATE OF WISCONSIN)
2) SS COUNTY OF ROCK)
3	
4	I, Margaret Ciembronowicz, Certified Shorthand
5	Reporter, do hereby certify that on April 12, 2022; I
6	reported the proceedings had in the above-entitled matter to
7	the best of my ability, and that the same is a true,
8	correct, and complete transcription of said proceedings held
9	on said date.
10	Dated this 12th day of May, 2022.
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13	MARGARET CIEMBRONOWICZ
14	Certified Shorthand Reporter License No. 084-003833
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20 21	David & Baker
22	Board of Appeals Chair
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