

**Planning Commission
County of Prince George, Virginia**

Regular Meeting
June 22, 2017
6:30 p.m.

County Administration Building, Boardroom, Third Floor
6602 Court Drive, Prince George, Virginia 23875

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Easter called to order the Regular Meeting of the Prince George County Planning Commission on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 6602 Courts Drive, Prince George, Virginia.

II. ATTENDANCE

The following members responded to Roll Call:

Mr. Joseph E. Simmons - Present
Vice Chairman James A. Easter - Present
Mrs. Imogene S. Elder – Present
Mr. R. Stephen Brockwell - Absent
Chairman V. Clarence Joyner, Jr. - Absent
Mr. Alex W. Bresko, Jr. - Present
Mr. Floyd M. Brown - Present

Also present were: Douglas Miles, Planning Manager, Charles Harrison III, Permit Technician I, and Missy Greaves-Smith, Office Associate II.

III. INVOCATION

Mrs. Elder gave the Invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U. S. FLAG

Mr. Brown led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 25, 2017

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Bresko the minutes were adopted as written. Roll was called on the motion.

Roll call vote on the motion:

In Favor: (4) Elder, Bresko, Brown, Simmons,
Opposed: (0) Absent: (2) Brockwell, Joyner Abstain: (1) Easter

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 6:35 p.m. Vice-Chairman Easter opened the citizen comment period to anyone who wished to speak on any subject not on the agenda. He asked that persons limit their remarks to three (3) minutes. With no one coming forward Vice-Chairman Easter closed the public comment period at 6:36 p.m.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Miles discussed the Draft Sign Ordinance. He stated that the existing sign standards are only one page but it is still relevant. He expressed the intent of the new ordinance is to be business friendly, and gave examples of the current applications of the existing Sign Ordinance requirements.

Mr. Miles stated that the current sign setback requirement is 20 feet from the road, and a proposed change may be to a 10 foot setback. He stated that the current sign height limit requirement is 35 feet, and does not plan to change the height on the major corridors. Also that electronic message center signs are not currently regulated under the existing sign ordinance. Mr. Miles advised that electronic signs would be under VDOT regulations that only allow a four second message change sequence with other sign design provisions reviewed by Prince George County staff for these signs.

Mr. Miles stated that the goal of the Draft Sign Ordinance is to phase out the old standards and come into compliance with the Reed case. Mr. Miles did acknowledge that the re-facing of existing signs would be allowed to maintain previous standards, but any new signs or structurally modified signs would require adherence to the newly adopted sign ordinance.

Mr. Simmons inquired as to the reason for revising the Sign Ordinance.

Mr. Miles replied that there was a legally based reason to update the sign ordinance. Mr. Miles gave examples of how neighboring jurisdictions have ordinances that are difficult to comprehend. Mr. Miles emphasized that the new Ordinance would be easier for citizens and contractors to understand.

Mrs. Elder inquired that if the new Sign Ordinance is passed, who would be responsible for code enforcement and implementation of the standards.

Mr. Miles replied that our department, Community Development and Code Compliance, would enforce the Sign Ordinance and mainly on a complaint basis or when new Sign Permits are applied for we would work towards compliance with the business owners or the shopping center managers.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Miles introduced Missy Greaves-Smith, Office Associate II who is training tonight and has replaced Chuck Brown in the Planning Division. He stated that in July the department will be interviewing for a Planner

position that will handle subdivision applications and residential permits and assisting further with the Site Plan process and planning projects.

Mr. Miles indicated that the June 26th Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting had been cancelled and that the July 24th BZA Meeting would be as well.

He stated that the Board of Supervisors on June 13th approved the Vtipil Assembly Hall request and also the NEV Solar Energy facility request.

Mr. Miles indicated that Hugh Mumford, a former BZA Member, Planning Commission Member and School Board Member was sworn in today as a District 1 Board Member to complete the term of the late Jerry Skalsky on the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Miles stated that there were no zoning cases filed for the July 27th Public Hearing but that the Planning Commission will be working on the various Utilities Expansion and CIP subcommittee work this Summer and into the Fall of 2017. The CIP process will begin after Labor Day and end before Thanksgiving this year to have better input into the Budget process.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Mr. Bresko, Seconded by Mr. Simmons to adjourn the Planning Commission Meeting at 7:10 p.m. until Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Roll was called on the motion.

Roll Call vote on the Motion:

In Favor: (5) Bresko, Brown, Simmons, Easter, Elder

Opposed: (0) Absent: Joyner, Brockwell (2) Abstain: (0)