

Minutes Ashton Planning and Zoning Commission

February 19, 2013
7:00 pm

Attendees: Commission Members: Chairman Bonnie Burlage, Administrator Susan Baker, Doug Ervin, Becky Harrigfeld, Ron Dixon, Mayor Teddy Stronks and Jan Wanke.

Chairman Burlage called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Minutes from January 15, 2013 were approved as written.

Administrator Baker Report - Administrator Baker gave her report for January 22, 2013 through February 15, 2013.

New Business:

Chairman Burlage turned the time over to Mayor Stronks. Mayor Stronks stated that he had been asked by the City Council to come to the Planning & Zoning meeting to talk about the Sign Ordinance. The City's attorney, Joette Lookabaugh, had asked the Mayor if there was anything that he needed help with that was bothering him. He told her that the Sign Ordinance had been a big problem. He said that a lot of business people have spoken to him and are very concerned about the Sign Ordinance. Because they are struggling to make a living they feel the Sign Ordinance limits their freedoms. He asked the City attorney what they could do and she told him she could write a sign ordinance that would only be two pages long. Then the Mayor spoke to the City Council. The City Council said that they would like to help the Planning and Zoning with the sign Ordinance if the P & Z would want them to. The Mayor stated that the Council would like to see something that would help businesses. Administrator Baker stated that having worked with the Sign Code, having all of the information in the code has made her job easier. There is little room for misinterpretation. Chairman Burlage added that one thing that really frustrates her is that no one ever comes and gives their concerns to her, the commission or staff. The last time she was at a City Council meeting a business woman was complaining about the Sign Code. Chairman Burlage asked the business woman to write her concerns down and hand them back to her. Chairman Burlage has still not heard from her. There have been others that have that have complained that they don't like the Code but they fail to give specifics. Chairman Burlage told the Mayor that she would be happy to give the City Council a copy of the Sign Code that the P & Z had gone over to get their input. The mayor thought that would be a good idea. Chairman Burlage asked the Mayor to let the City Council know that the P & Z is as frustrated as they are. She also asked him that if anyone came to the Council about the Sign Code to have them write down their concerns. The P & Z cannot change anything if they do not know what changes are desired. Mayor Stronks told the P & Z commission that he appreciated them and the job they were they were doing.

Unfinished Business:

Development Code – The commission started at 17.76.070 F (Prohibited Signs). Some discussion was held on signs attached to or painted on vehicles, searchlights, spotlights, holograms, abandoned signs, Awning signs, comprehensive sign plan. The commission stopped for the night at 17.76.140 – (Type of Signs Permitted in each Zoning District).

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There was no further business. It was decided to begin the next meeting at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 19, 2013 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Warnke

Attest:

Jan Warnke
P & Z Secretary

Bonnie Burlage
Chairman