

Vilonia Planning Commission
February 26, 2015

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Members Present:

John Bonner
Charles Coker
Melissa Jenkins
Marshall Smith

Jeanna Branson
Brad Fisher
Frank Mitchell
Trey White

Members Absent:

Marty Knight

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Minutes from the January 30 meeting were read and approved.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Clint Tucker, Sign Ordinance

Clint and Amy Tucker were in attendance to ask the Planning Commission to consider looking at the city sign ordinance and try to help businesses. He has concern that people from out-of-town cannot find his business and he would like us to have a sign at Highway 64B and Church Street to direct people to his restaurant. He agreed that permits, approvals, all those things are important, but people need to find businesses.

Mr. Coker pointed out that prior to implementation of the Zoning ordinance there were multiple signs at some of the intersections resulting in very unsightly and even dangerous conditions.

Mr. Fowlkes reminded Commission that the sign provisions were implemented with the original zoning and that they were updated in 2012 after a committee of citizens and Commission Members studied other Cities' sign regulations and solicited input from businesses and the public.

Mr. Tucker's issue is that off-premise signs are not allowed. Dr. Mitchell commented that when visiting other areas you notice three types of signs--restaurants, gas stations, hotels. He suggested that they contact the Highway Department about using those small road signs on Hwy 64 and to focus on other areas where people enter town.

Mr. Tucker remarked that they could do a sign with multiple businesses like the Eagle Plaza. But, Commission reminded them that Eagle Plaza signs are all on-premise.

Mr. Bonner said that we welcomed their comments and will certainly review this ordinance. Any ordinance review would require committee review, study, and then a public hearing before a recommendation could be made to the City Council.

Motion was made to form a Committee to study this matter. Committee will include: Dr. Mitchell; Marshall Smith; Melissa Jenkins; and Marty Knight. No other discussion. Motion approved.

Mr. Fowlkes said we should ask Chief Hillman to participate on the Committee.

No other business or announcements.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Chairman

Melissa Jenkins
Secretary

Date: 3/26/15