

Spotsylvania County Planning Commission

DRAFT EXCERPT

Holbert Building Board Room, 9104 Courthouse Road, Spotsylvania VA 22553

MINUTES: February 7, 2018

Call to Order: Mr. Newhouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Gregg Newhouse	Chancellor
Richard Thompson	Courtland
Michael Medina	Salem
Howard Smith	Livingston
Mary Lee Carter	Lee Hill
C. Travis Bullock	Battlefield
C. Douglas Barnes	Berkeley

Staff Present:

Wanda Parrish, AICP, Director of Planning
B. Leon Hughes, AICP, Assistant Director of Planning
Paulette Mann, Planning Commission Secretary
Alexandra Spaulding, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Patrick White, Planner III
Doug Morgan, Transportation Planner
Gail Crooks, Director of Social Services
Bonnie Jewell, Budget Manager
Ed Petrovitch, Deputy County Administrator

Public Hearing(s):

Mr. Newhouse reviewed the public hearing procedures and opened the public hearing.

Code Amendment:

CA18-0001 Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors, Ordinance No. 23-175: An amendment of Spotsylvania County Code Chapter 23, Zoning, Article 4, Development Review Procedures, to amend Sec. 23-4.2.1. Notice Requirements and Sec. 23-4.2.2. Public Hearings, as follows: Sec. 23-4.2.1.(b) and Sec. 23-4.2.2.(b) to change the six (6) day gap between the second newspaper advertisement for a public hearing and the public hearing date to five (5) days consistent with the Code of Virginia Sec. 15.2-2204; Sec. 23-4.2.1.(c) and (d) to make the mailed notice requirements of the first paragraph specific to the Board of Zoning Appeals for variances, appeals, or interpretations and to add a new paragraph specific to the Planning Commission for zoning map or proffered conditions or a special use and increasing the mailing notice for adjacent properties to those within 3,000 feet of the subject property; delete Sec. 23-4.2.1.(f)

related to written notice by applicant and reletter the subsequent provisions as Sec. 23-4.2.1.(f), Sec. 23-4.2.1.(g), and Sec. 23-4.2.1.(h); change the relettered Sec. 23-4.2.1.(h) Cost of providing notice, to reference any notice required by the Code of Virginia Sec. 15.2-2204 as the basis for any cost charged to the applicant; and edits related to punctuation, capitalization, internal consistency, and wording changes to enhance clarity to Sec. 23-4.2.1.(a) through (d), Sec. 23-4.2.1.(f) through (h), and Sec. 23-4.2.2.(a) and (b).

Ms. Parrish presented the case. She advised the Commission that on January 9, 2018, the Board of Supervisors authorized public hearings to consider an amendment of Spotsylvania County Code Chapter 23, Zoning, Article 4, Development Review Procedures, to amend Sec. 23-4.2.1. Notice Requirements and Sec. 23-4.2.2. Public Hearings, as follows:

- To change the six (6) day gap between the second newspaper advertisement for a public hearing and the public hearing date to five (5) days consistent with the Code of Virginia.
- To increase the mailed notice requirements for rezoning and special use permit public hearings from adjacent properties to those properties within 3,000 feet of the subject property.
- Delete Sec. 23-4.2.1.(f) related to written notice by applicant and reletter the subsequent provisions as Sec. 23-4.2.1.(f), Sec. 23-4.2.1.(g), and Sec. 23-4.2.1.(h).
- Change the relettered Sec. 23-4.2.1.(h) Cost of providing notice, to reference any notice required by the Code of Virginia Sec. 15.2-2204 as the basis for any cost charged to the applicant.
- Edits related to punctuation, capitalization, internal consistency, and wording changes to enhance clarity.

She stated that the 3,000 feet mailing makes the public hearing notification consistent with the Community meeting notice.

Mr. Thompson inquired if the mailing cost is passed on to the applicant.

Ms. Parrish stated that the applicant only has to pay for the adjacent letters as that is what is required by State Code. Also as part of our code, two ads must be run in the newspaper advising of the upcoming public hearing.

Ms. Carter stated that this notice change is way above what the state code requires.

Several Commission members inquired about cost.

Ms. Parrish stated that based on the last year submittals, it would cost approximately \$17,500.

Ms. Carter inquired why we are doing this.

Ms. Parrish stated that this is a Board initiative. Citizens have expressed concerns about the notification process and not being aware of proposed projects. She also discussed that the size of the public hearing signs have been increased and she demonstrated the new button on the

county's website that will take you directly to public hearing cases and information. She encouraged the Commission members to share this information with their constituents.

There was shared frustration about the Planning Commission only having a stamp of approval since the practice is already happening.

Mr. Medina inquired if we get information out to citizens via social media.

Ms. Parrish stated that the Planning Department does not have their own pages, that the Public Information Officer will do a few updates on the County's Facebook and Twitter pages from the department over the course of a month. Our department seeks input through our planning@spotsylvania.va.us email.

Speaking in favor or opposition: None

Mr. Newhouse closed the public hearing.

Motion and vote: Mr. Newhouse made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the amendment. The motion passed 7-0.