

FARMERSVILLE SIGN BOARD OF APPEALS  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 11, 2010

The Farmersville Sign Board of Appeals met in a special called session on May 11, 2010 at 6:21 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall with the following members present: Mayor Don Smith, Fred Langford, Paul Kelly, Billy Long, Bobby Bishop and Kevin Green. Staff members present were City Manager John Moran, Police Chief Roy Owen, Fire Department Chief Kim Morris, Finance Director Daphne Hamlin and City Secretary Edie Sims.

CALL WORKSESSION TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Edie Sims called the roll and announced a quorum was present.

PUBLIC HEARING – HEAR PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO AN APPEAL FROM DIANE PIWKO REGARDING THE BUILDING OFFICIAL’S DETERMINATION THAT THE SIGN SUSPENDED ACROSS THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING SITUATED AT 200 MCKINNEY STREET IS NOT A “BANNER SIGN” AND THAT SAID SIGN IS INSTEAD A “POLITICAL SIGN” THAT VIOLATES THE CITY’S SIGN ORDINANCE

Mayor Smith opened the Public Hearing at 6:22pm asking for those who wish to speak regarding the banner sign. Diane Piwko came before the Council with her concerns that she may have had her First Amendment rights violated as she lives directly on the square. Due to her living above her business, she did not have 10 feet within the lot to express her political rights. Ms. Piwko requested the Council to consider reviewing the Sign Ordinance and having downtown merchants be involved with this process.

City Attorney Alan Lathrom came before the Council in rebuttal stating that the sign permit was issued in error. If a hardship was involved, the Sign Ordinance allows the process of a variance to be sought, which would have been the correct procedure. Mr. Lathrom asked the Council to uphold the Building Official’s interpretation of the Sign Ordinance.

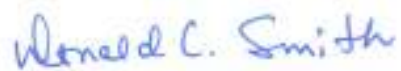
CONSIDER APPEAL FROM DIANE PIWKO REGARDING THE BUILDING OFFICIAL’S DETERMINATION THAT THE SIGN SUSPENDED ACROSS THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING SITUATED AT 200 MCKINNEY STREET IS NOT A “BANNER SIGN” AND THAT SAID SAIGN IS INSTEAD A “POLITICAL SIGN” THAT VIOLATES THE CITY’S SIGN ORDINANCE

After a short discussion of the comments made by Ms. Piwko and City Attorney Alan Lathrom, Paul Kelly moved to uphold the Building Official’s decision with Bobby Bishop seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Bobby Bishop moved to adjourn with Billy Long seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

APPROVED



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Donald C. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST



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Edie Sims, City Secretary