

FARMERSVILLE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
March 18, 2013

The Farmersville Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session on March 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Farmersville Council Chambers with the following members present:, Bill Nerwich, Craig Overstreet, Betty Sergent, Lee Warren, Tom Waitschies and Bryce Thompson. Mark Vincent was absent. Staff members present was City Manager Ben White, City Attorney Alan Lathrom and City Secretary Edie Sims. Council Liaison Michael Carr was not present.

CALL TO ORDER AND RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS/VISITORS

Chairman Tom Waitschies called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Edie Sims called roll and announced that a quorum was present. Chairman Waitschies offered the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item II – A) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 21, 2013 P&Z MEETING

Lee Warren motioned to approve the minutes as presented with Betty Sergent seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item II – B) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT TO AMEND SECTION 56-31 OF THE SIGN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO DIGITAL SIGNS

City Manager Ben White came before the Commission and stated the staff kept the signage size not to exceed 50 square feet with no animation and all aspects of the ordinance as before with the exception of Item 3. With no method of testing the dimming technology, the previously submitted information was revitalized. Mr. White simplified the dimming and felt it was a good balance for our town. Mr. White chose not to include color as we do not want to hold other signs to creativity standards.

Questions were raised about dimming and how a sign owner would adjust the brightness of the electronic signs. A control usually is on the sign which will allow the brightness to be adjusted or an automatic control can be purchased. Lee Warren questioned why we would not allow scrolling, such as the Princeton High School sign. Mr. White indicated that with the 8 second change there should not be an issue with allowing scrolling, not to mention the size of the sign allowance. Mr. White stated he would rather err on the side of safety. Craig Overstreet stated he could not support the ordinance as written such the wording is subjective and thought the ordinance as a whole was too restrictive.

Mr. White offered an alternative which would return the wording to the original presentation, a copy of the City of McKinney's electronic sign messaging center. Mr. White also offered to take the newly formed ordinance to Quick Check and Brookshire's. This is intended to be a good-will effort so that any future changes to their signs would fall under the new ordinance guidelines. City Attorney Alan Lathrom requested to add verbiage stating the 50 square foot will apply according to zoning districts and types of signs chosen. Bill Nerwich motioned to have Item 3 returned to the original presentation per the City of McKinney's sign ordinance; add verbiage regarding zoning and have Mr. White speak with Quick Check and Brookshire's and to

present the changed ordinance to the next P&Z meeting. Bryce Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item III) ADJOURNMENT

Craig Overstreet motioned to adjourn with Lee Warren seconding the motion. P&Z Commission adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

Tom Waitschies, Chairman

Eddie Sims, City Secretary