

**AMHERST COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016
MINUTES**

VIRGINIA

A public meeting for the Amherst County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, May 19, 2016, in the School Board Room located in the Administration Building at 153 Washington Street, Amherst, VA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Jones, Chairman
George Brine, Vice Chairman
Les Irvin
Lillian Floyd
Derin Foor
David Pugh, Board of Supervisors Liaison

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Martineau

STAFF PRESENT: Jeremy Bryant, Director of Planning/Zoning
Austin Mitchell, Assistant Zoning Administrator/Planner
Stacey Stinnett, Administrative Assistant

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Citizens Comments
4. Public Hearing
 - A. Ordinance No. 2016-0007 - Permitting Process Governing Personal Wireless Service Facilities
 - B. Ordinance No. 2016-0008 - Travel Trailers
5. Site Plan
 - A. Joseph Moore (Tax Map # 16-A-41)
6. Broadband Draft Text
7. Old/New Business
 - A. Route 29 Business Corridor Discussion
8. Approval of Minutes for March 17, 2016
9. Adjournment

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Planning Commission Action:

Motion: Brine Motion to approve the amended agenda.

Second: Foor

The motion carried by a 4-0 vote

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were none.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Ordinance No. 2016-0007 – Permitting Process Governing Personal Wireless Service Facilities

Amending § 919.08 of Appendix A to the Amherst County Code to modify the permitting process governing personal wireless service facilities.

Mr. Bryant briefly reviewed the ordinance.

Ms. Jones opened the public hearing.

Mr. Thompson, residing at 214 Camden Drive in Madison Heights, Virginia spoke in favor of the ordinance. Mr. Thompson stated that the process had been frustrating but he was very appreciative that the County is trying to let the citizens be heard.

Mr. Thompson asked for citizens to stand that were in favor of the request.

Mr. Jason Ferguson, residing at 164 Camden Drive in Madison Heights, Virginia spoke in favor of the request.

Mr. James Massie, residing at 218 Maple Drive in Madison Heights, Virginia spoke in favor of the request.

No one spoke in opposition; therefore, Ms. Jones closed the public hearing.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Irvin Motion to approve Ordinance, No. 2016-0007 (Planning & Zoning No. 2016-06).

Second: Foor

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

B. Ordinance No. 2016-0008 – Travel Trailers

Amending § 904 of Appendix A to the Amherst County Code, specifically subsection 904.02, to increase the maximum stay on any one travel trailer site from 45 to 120 days.

Mr. Bryant briefly reviewed the ordinance.

Ms. Jones opened the public hearing.

No one spoke in favor or in opposition; therefore, Ms. Jones closed the public hearing.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Brine Motion to approve Ordinance 2016-0008 (Planning & Zoning No. 2016-08).

Second: Irvin

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

5. SITE PLAN

A. Joseph Moore (Tax Map # 16-A-41)

In accordance with Section 1103 of the Code of Amherst County, a major site plan has been submitted by Joseph Moore for the construction of a 600 square foot addition to the existing cabinet shop, on property located at 7232 Lexington Turnpike. The proposed addition will not result in the addition of any new employees or company vehicles and, in accordance with Section 602.03.5.a, will not require any additional parking spaces. Copies of the plans were reviewed by the Development Review Committee on April 27, 2016. The following sections summarize staff and agency comments with respect to the major elements of the plan.

Mr. Mitchell presented the Staff report and concluded his comments by stating that Staff recommends the following conditions.

1. A Safe, Adequate and Proper Review of the drainfields and private onsite sewage systems shall be completed and approved by the Virginia Department of Health prior to the issuance of a Zoning Permit.
2. VDOT approval of the site plan.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Foor Motion to approve site plan Joseph Moore (Tax Map # 16-A-41) with staff recommended conditions.

Second : Irvin

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

6. BROADBAND DRAFT TEXT

Mr. Mitchell briefly gave a memo including a proposed code change to allow for the placement of wireless internet service providers. The deployment of wireless broadband infrastructure will also include small towers on private property to allow for better connection to homes in areas where terrain is more challenging. The proposal would allow for towers up to forty (40) feet.

Staff and the Planning Commission recognized Jeremy Bryant for his recent achievement on graduating with his doctorate degree.

A. Route 29 Business Corridor Discussion

Mr. Bryant gave a brief discussion stating that a committee with possibly (9) nine members would be chartered. These members would be advocates for helping beautify the Route 29 Corridor. Such examples would be landscaping, signs, painting buildings, etc.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 17, 2016

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Brine The Planning Commission minutes for March 17, 2016 were approved with one change.

Second: Irvin

Motion carried by a 4-0 vote. (Foor abstained)

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

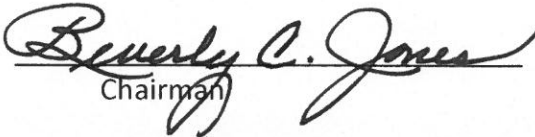
Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Irvin Motion to adjourn.

Second: Brine

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

/ss/6.20.16


Chairman