

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR NEW IBERIA PLANNING COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL ROOM AT CITY HALL, NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA.

Ken Boudreaux, Chairman; called the meeting to order and asked for a Call of the Roll, and a quorum was determined: Members Present: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell. Also, present Jane Braud, Planning & Zoning Director.

MINUTES: Lloyd Verret offered a motion, seconded by Keith Laperouse and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of June 1, 2016 and July 6, 2016. Yeas: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

DOCKET #1 (ADVERTISED ITEM) RESUBDIVISION OF PROPERTY: A request to subdivide property belonging to Porteus R. & Robert Perry Burke located in Section 44T12S R7E, City of New Iberia, Iberia Parish, Louisiana measuring 1.29 acres into three (3) lots. Jane Braud read the reviews and comments from city service providers and utility company representatives who issued approval for the resubdivision of property. Mr. Dale Mitchell, sub divider and owner stated that the property will be developed for a CC's Coffee and Domino's Pizza location.

Before final plat approval, the following list of improvements shall be installed or in lieu of the installation, the sub divider may post a bond to cover the cost of the improvements as provided in CNI Code of Ordinances, Chapter 78 Subdivisions, Article II. Plats & Plat Approval, Sec. 78-33 Final Plat (c) Certification of installation of improvements, bond required, or approval granted for development of phases.

1. Permanent Markers
2. Street Improvements
3. Sewers
4. Water Supply
5. Storm Drainage

MOTION: Lloyd Verret offered a motion, seconded by Pat Wells and unanimously carried, "To grant Preliminary Subdivision Approval relative to the plat entitled, PLAT SHOWING DIVISION OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO MITCHELL HOLDINGS, LLC, LOCATED IN SECTION 38, T12S, R6E & SECTION 44, T12S-R7E WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF NEW IBERIA, PARISH OF IBERIA, LOUISIANA," dated August 31, 2016; revised September 15, 2016 to add proposed sewer and correct property dimension by Charles D. Moore, P.L.S. All city and utility company representatives reviewed the request and rendered approval, and there was no opposition." Yeas: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

DOCKET #2 (ADVERTISED ITEM) SITE PLAN REVIEW: Affordable Home Furnishings – 715 E. Admiral Doyle Dr. measuring 100'x120," four (4) tenant spaces measuring 25'x70', one (1) measuring 50'x70' and one (1) outparcel measuring 18,570sf. Mr. Paul Brasseaux, contractor spoke on behalf of the project that will house, in addition to the anchor store Affordable Home Furnishings, three to four smaller retail stores located on E. Admiral Doyle Dr. All city and utility company representatives reviewed the Site Plan and rendered approval, and there was no opposition.

MOTION: George Allen, Jr. offered a motion, seconded by Michael Cormier and unanimously carried to grant Site Plan Approval to Affordable Home Furnishings at 715 E. Admiral Doyle Dr.. Yeas: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

There being no further business, Pat Wells offered a motion, seconded by Lloyd Verret and unanimously carried, "to adjourn the September 21, 2016 meeting of the New Iberia Planning Commission." Yeas: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR NEW IBERIA ZONING COMMISSION MEETING HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL ROOM AT CITY HALL, NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA.

MINUTES: Keith Laperouse offered a motion, seconded by Lloyd Verret and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of June 1, 2016 and July 6, 2016. Yeas:

George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

DOCKET #1 (ADVERTISED ITEM): POLITICAL SIGN ORDINANCE: A request to amend the City of New Iberia Code of Ordinances, Appendix A, Article VI, Sec. 6.2 – Definitions: “*Political sign*: A sign which advocates a position on an issue, the candidacy of a person or a party on an upcoming ballot.” Appendix A, Article VI, Sec. 6.3 – General Restrictions, we add a Sec. 6.311, which shall read as follows: 6.311.

Political sign. In addition to otherwise allowed signs, the following shall apply:

- a. With the exception of messages displayed on billboards, a political sign may be erected only on the private property, outside the sight triangle where applicable.
- b. The sign may be installed no more than ninety (90) days prior to the balloting for which it was prepared, and shall be removed within ten (10) calendar days following the decisive vote.
- c. With the exception of messages displayed on billboards, a political sign shall not exceed thirty two (32) square feet in area.”

Jane Braud, Director of Planning & Zoning explained to the members that the New Iberia Board of Trustees for the Commission to review, and make a recommendation relative to the ordinance draft as written. Following discussions by the Commission relative to the dates proposed for sign installation and removal, the Chairman recognized an attendee, who is also a new political candidate running for a City Council seat. She stated that as a first time candidate running for office, she felt that limiting the time to install signage to the date of qualifying, would create an unfair advantage for first-time political candidates such as herself; and gives the advantage to those politicians who have previously run for office because of name recognition. She stated that she began walking and erecting signs in February and qualifying was in July, with the election in November.

The Commission also discussed the ordinance draft relative to sign removal following the election and that ten (10) days to remove signs may be adequate for District elections, but citywide elections such as Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem would not allow enough time to remove signs throughout the city. Commission members asked about other community’s political sign regulations, penalties, and enforcement for not abiding by the rules. The Commission discussed the vast number of signs on vacant lots at present was an eyesore, and agreed that with no regulation, it allows too much time for visual clutter of signs.

MOTION: Keith Laperouse offered a motion, seconded by Pat Wells to deny the ordinance draft as presented based on the time limit of 90 days prior to install signage, and 10 days following an election to remove signs. Commission members stated that the proposed amendment would not allow signs to be displayed at the time of qualifying; and only one week including, one weekend to remove the signs following an election. A roll-call vote was taken: Yeas: Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells. Nays: Lloyd Verret, George Allen, Jr.. Absent: Edwina Bell.

The Commission discussed the need for additional time to re-draft the ordinance after researching other communities, perhaps to interview political candidates, taking a verbal poll of local citizens, and then present a re-draft back to the City Council at the November 15, 2016 meeting.

There being no further business, Michael Cormier offered a motion seconded by Lloyd Verret and it unanimously carried, “to close the New Iberia Zoning Commission Meeting.” Yeas: George Allen, Jr., Keith Laperouse, Michael Cormier, Pat Wells, Lloyd Verret. Absent: Edwina Bell.

s/Jane H. Braud, Director – Planning & Zoning Department