

**King & Queen County
Planning Commission Minutes
March 6, 2017**

The King & Queen County Planning Commission met on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the King & Queen County Courts and Administrations Building in the General District Courtroom for their regular monthly meeting.

**Note – Mr. Richardson had not submitted his current Real Estate Disclosure Form, therefore all votes by Mr. Richardson are void. He is not included in the quorum count, however did participate in discussions.*

Planning Commission Members Present:

Franklin Massey
Milton Watkins
David Campbell
Robert Harvey

Sheila Morton
Hunter Richardson
Robert Coleman, Jr.
James Guess

Also in Attendance:

Donna E. Sprouse, Assistant Zoning Administrator

Call to Order

Chairman, Mr. Richardson called the meeting to order.

Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Mr. Campbell took roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes
January 3, 2017**

After brief review of the minutes a motion was made by Mr. Massey to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Watkins.

Voting For: Watkins, Morton, Campbell, Coleman, Massey, Harvey
Voting Against: None
Abstain: Guess & Richardson

Citizens Comment Period

Mr. Richardson noted that there was no one in attendance at the meeting from the public, therefore citizens comment period was opened and immediately closed.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Electronic Controlled Message Signs in the Agricultural District *(discussion continued from the January 3, 2017 meeting)*

To assist in moving the discussion along, Mrs. Sprouse provided the Commission a discussion sheet. It read as follows...

Key points of discussion/thought process from the January 2017 meeting.

- Bring our ordinance up-to-date with the technology offered.
- If you allow one church to have an electronic controlled message sign in the Agricultural district, all churches should be allowed to have one.
- Will this cause issues/light pollution in rural areas?
- How would we allow for such signs for schools, library, EMS & Fire Departments, and churches, etc.?
- How is an electronic controlled message sign different from an illuminated sign lit from within or with floodlights?
- What is best for the county as a whole, not case by case or under the current circumstances for the review request?

Options to consider per discussion from the January 2017 meeting.

- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in all districts.
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in Agricultural district
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in Agricultural district with limitations on message change frequency
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in all zoning districts within the Economic Development Corridors and Hubs.
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in all zoning districts within the Economic Development Corridors and Hubs with limitations on message change frequency.
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in Agricultural districts within the Economic Development Corridors and Hubs.
- Change to allow electronic controlled message signs in Agricultural districts within the Economic Development Corridors and Hubs with limitations on message change frequency.
- Leave the sign ordinance as is.

Mr. Harvey said he had no problems allowing electronic signs in the Agricultural district. Mr. Richardson stated that when he thinks of Agricultural zoning, he doesn't think of flashing or changing electronic signs. Mr. Massey stated that since such signs are permitted in Commercial and Industrial zoning districts, the church in this case, could request a rezoning. He also thought about allowing for such signs in all districts if located within an economic corridor, however Mr. Watkins stated as Mrs. Morton had stated during the January meeting, it would not be fair to other churches that are not located within the Corridor. Furthermore, it would not allow for fire departments, rescue squads, schools, etc. to have an electronic controlled message sign.

The commission members discussed the options listed above in the discussion sheet, and ultimately decided that they would rather have more time to discuss this with citizens in the community regarding the possibility of having an electronic message sign in the Agricultural district.

A motion was made by Mr. Coleman to table the discussion until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Watkins.

Voting For: Watkins, Morton, Campbell, Coleman, Massey, Harvey, Guess
Voting Against: Richardson
Abstain: None

Staff's Comments

Mrs. Sprouse noted that the Commission may have the Bennett Mineral Company Conditional Use Permit application on their agenda next month to set a public hearing.

Mrs. Sprouse stated that VDOT has received the Comp Plan for review of the Transportation component of the plan as per the Code of Virginia. She added that comments should be received this week from VDOT so the Commission may start their review and public meetings for public comment.

Commissioner's Comments

Mr. Richardson noted that Commissioner Comments is a time for commission members to bring up their thoughts on what needs to be addressed or discussed regarding the county. It is a time to bring ideas and suggestions to the commission. He noted that Board members do read the minutes and your comments are known. He urged fellow members to use the time to bring up any thoughts that they may have.

Mr. Watkins thanked Mr. Simpkins for attending the Planning Commission meetings.

Mr. Campbell stated "ditto" to what Mr. Watkins stated and noted that the Dollar General is under roof and coming along nicely. He wondered when it would be open. He noted that the Daus property has been placed for sale on Route 33.

Mr. Coleman stated that in the Tidewater Review, West Point is going to have a carnival of food trucks along the bridge walkways. He noted it is interesting to see what your neighbors are doing.

Mr. Massey noted that he and Mr. Swartzwelder talked last week about run down properties, citizens who are not in compliance with the inoperative motor vehicle ordinance. He stated that the conclusion of the discussion was that our laws don't have enough teeth to enforce laws to clean up unsightly properties.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Watkins to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Guess. All those present ratified the motion by saying "Aye". The meeting was adjourned.

Hunter Richardson, Chairman