

Perry Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beeland called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

ROLL: Chairman Beeland, Commissioners Clarington, Cosey, Hubbard and Mehserle were all present; Commissioners Barker and Jefferson were absent.

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Beecham, Director of Community Development and Christine Sewell, Secretary

INVOCATION: was given by Commissioner Hubbard

GUESTS/SPEAKERS: Mr. Pete Lamendola, Sr., Mr. Peter Lamendola, Jr. and Mr. Rick Hughes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 22, 2009 MEETING: Commissioner Cosey made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; Commissioner Clarington seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Campaign Notice, per O.C.G.A. 36-67A-3, please turn cell phones off; Chairman Beeland referred to the notice posted on the door of council chambers.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

1. Variance Request - #V-09-06 – Victory Lane Auto Sales – 320 General Courtney Hodges Blvd.

Chairman Beeland opened the hearing at 6:05pm. Mr. Beecham read the applicant's request which was for a (236) square feet variance of the (200) square feet maximum signage, along with the conditions necessary for a variance and the staff response for the criteria. Chairman Beeland then called for anyone wishing to speak in favor of the request. Mr. Peter Lamendola Jr., tenant of the property advised the board that his family was looking to expand their business in Perry and have plans to ultimately purchase the building and signage was needed to properly advertise the business.

Chairman Beeland then called for anyone opposed; there being none the hearing was closed at 6:10pm.

Discussion ensued among the board with Chairman Beeland stating that the area in question was part of a beautification project underway by the city and his concern was if this request was allowed it would open the door for others to ask for the same consideration. General discussion continued and it was determined that the variance request was for the signs on the Northeast side of the building, which if eliminated would not require a variance as the other signs are in compliance. This being determined, Mr. Pete Lamendola, Sr. agreed to remove the signs on the Northeast side of the building and officially withdrew the variance request; thus no action was required of the commission.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Further discussion of Section 106 – Signs

Mr. Beecham had provided the commission a second draft of the city sign ordinance as discussed at the previous meeting, which was reviewed in its entirety, with the board providing additional suggestions and changes. During review it was noted that Mr. Beecham would bring back before the commission the changes regarding billboards, as he needed to confer with the City Attorney.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recommendation of appointee to the Warner Robins Area Transportation Study (WRATS) Committee

Mr. Beecham advised the City Manager had requested a citizen nominee for the WRATS Advisory Committee and if any of the members would like to serve or knew of someone who would to please contact him.

ADJOURN: There being no further business Chairman Beeland adjourned the meeting at 7:18pm.