

REGULAR SESSION

October 9, 2018

The Zoning Board of Adjustments of the City of Athens, Texas met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room, 210 West Corsicana, Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Mamie Stafford, Vice Chairman
Mark Carroll
Shannon Traxson
Morgan Jones

Ryan Adams, Interim Director of Development Services
Sheila Garrett, Development Coordinator

Others present: Barry Choate

With the following members absent: Jack Bateman, Thomas Faulk, Alex Withers and Bryan Barker

Vice-Chair Stafford called the meeting to order.

CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2018, REGULAR SESSION

Motion made by Member Carroll, seconded by Member Jones, to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2018 Regular Session, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A REQUEST FROM ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ON A SIGN WITH CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGING TO BE LOCATED AT 6800 SOUTH STATE HWY 19 (V-10-18-001)

Ryan Adams, Interim Director of Development Services, explain to the board that AISD submitted a sign permit for a new Athens Middle School monument sign and during review it was determined that the sign could not be approved due to there being a Changeable Electronic Variable Sign (CEVMS). Mr. Adams explained that Section 41.6L (7) specifically restricts certain illuminated signs of this nature, which is why that applicant is seeking a variance on this section of the ordinance. Mr. Adams stated the required setback for the sign is ten (10) feet and currently there is a sign located eighty (80) feet back from the property line. Mr. Adams stated the same location will be used for the requested sign because the electric is already there and the sign that will be used is the sign that was previously located at the High School.

Member Carroll ask what the hardship was for the need of the sign? Barry Choate, AISD representative, stated the school district wants to re-use this sign that was originally located at the high school to save tax payer money and to be good stewards. Mr. Choate explained the only thing changing on the sign is top from "High School" to Middle School". Member Traxson stated the original sign was manual, but the now will be electronic. Member Traxson expressed concerns regarding the speed limit and motorist being distracted by frequently flashing sign. Member Carroll also expressed his concern with flashing lights at night being a distraction to motorists. Mr. Adams stated the sign will have to conform to candle light requirements of the zoning ordinance. Member Jones ask if the sign needed to be on after dark? Mr. Choate stated that school activities are still going on after dark. Member Stafford ask the board to look over conditions required for a variance.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ON A SIGN WITH CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGING TO BE LOCATED AT 6800 SOUTH STATE HWY 19 (V-10-18-001)

After a discussion regarding the frequency of the screen change and flashing or strobing lights on the sign, a motion was made by Member Carroll, seconded by Member Traxson to approve the request with the following restrictions: Sign must be at least eighty (80) feet set back from the curb; sign may be use between the hours of 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., 7 days a week; and

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frequency of screen change to once every sixty (60) seconds after dark. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 TRAINING

Board members shared their thoughts on the training they attended in September.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018

Jack Bateman, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sheila Garrett, Development Coordinator