



PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

66 Thillen Drive, Fox Lake, IL 60020

February 12th, 2020 6:30pm

Public Hearing for the Petition of the Village of Fox Lake requesting a Text Amendment to Section 10-1-5 of the Sign Ordinance

I. Call to Order

Chairman Gauger opened the public hearing for the petition of the Village of Fox Lake requesting a Text Amendment to Section 10-1-5 of the Sign Ordinance at 7:03pm.

II. Roll Call

Present

Commissioner LaPiana

Commissioner Niki Warden

Commissioner Tim Foster

Commissioner Debra Vander Weit

Chairman David Gauger

Absent

Commissioner David Schultz

Commissioner Legge

Staff Present

Community Development Director Donovan Day

III. Hearing

Staff is seeking Planning and Zoning Commission's consideration for the petition filed by the Village of Fox Lake to amend Section 10-1-5 of the Fox Lake Sign Ordinance to include boulevard banners, lakefront signage for commercial businesses and certain types of attention getting devices.

Director Day presented the petition to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Boulevard Banners: The Village of Fox Lake utilizes boulevard banners installed on light poles throughout the town to highlight various events, seasons, and the Village's brand. Several businesses have requested relief from the Sign Ordinance to allow boulevard banners on light

poles located on private property as an additional tool to market their business and product offerings. This type of sign was not listed as an allowable temporary sign in the previous version of the Sign Ordinance, but was utilized by multiple businesses. With the adoption of the current Sign Ordinance businesses were not permitted to install boulevard banners any longer. Staff is recommending boulevard banners to be permitted with an approved permit that expires after one hundred twenty (120) days. The permit may continue to be renewed for another one hundred twenty (120) days when staff verifies the signage is still in good condition. If any portion of a boulevard banner is in disrepair it will have to be removed before the permit is approved. Staff is recommending two (2) signs per light pole be permitted with no sign being larger than three (3) feet wide by four (4) feet tall.

Lakefront Signage: Commercial businesses located on a lakefront struggle to advertise effectively to boaters due to the current Sign Ordinance not allowing banner type signage. The portion of the business that fronts on a public street has several options to market their business with signage. The National Athletic Club and Fam's on the Chain recently inquired about a variance to install signage throughout the summer months to attract boaters to their business. Rather than making each business apply for a variance each time they want to install a banner type sign we felt it was appropriate to provide a possible option permitting banner signs after obtaining a permit.

Staff is recommending that a banner sign no larger than thirty two (32) square feet be permitted on property fronting on a lake or waterway for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days. After the permit expires the business can apply for a new permit with no limits on the quantity of permits allowed in a given year.

Attention Getting Devices: The Sign Ordinance allows for a Special Event sign for no longer than (14) days and the sign cannot exceed sixteen (16) square feet. Several businesses have requested additional devices to grab attention from passersby during a special event. The current Sign Ordinance does not allow for any type of attention getting devices.

Staff is recommending that Special Event signage be permitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days three (3) times per year and include the option of installing attention getting devices with approval by the Community Development Director. Such devices could be hard plastic shaped balloons as depicted in the attached image labeled as "Exhibit A". The maximum size of the sign should be increased from sixteen (16) square feet to thirty two (32) square feet.

IV. Commission Comments

The Planning & Zoning Commission agreed to postpone the petition until the next scheduled meeting.

V. Commission Questions

None

VI. Public Comment

None

VII. Motion

None

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Gauger postponed the hearing at 7:07pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brigitte Weber", written over a horizontal line.

Brigitte Weber

Deputy Clerk