

MINUTES
CRISP COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MEETING
July 21, 2020

The Crisp County Zoning Board of Appeals met at a regular meeting on the 21st day of July 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Crisp County Government Center. The following members were present: Dale Mitchell, J.C. Clark, Ray Cromer, Lucky Taylor and Wendy Peavy. Also present, Building Inspector Jimmy Mumphery. Visitors present: Tracey Wells.

Chairman Ray Cromer called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

Chairman asked for a motion on the June 16, 2020 minutes.

VOTE: Motion was made by J.C. Clark with a second by Dale Mitchell to **approve** the minutes of the June 16, 2020 meeting. Carried unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Cromer opened the Public Hearing and read aloud the criteria in which the board handles requests.

PUBLIC HEARING

Request from The Hundley Group, Inc. for: 1) variance from the required height of 20' to 60' 2) variance from the required sign face area of 100 sq. ft. to 432 sq. ft. (12x36) on each side; 3) variance from the required sign structure area of 130 sq. ft. to 648 sq. ft. (18x36) on each side for the purpose of placing signage on an existing sign pole structure. The property is located at 566 Farmers Market Road and is zoned HC (Heavy Commercial).

Mr. Tracey Wells was present on spoke on behalf of the request. Mr. Wells stated that he owned the property, he stated there is an existing sign pole on the property and he is asking to increase the required height to 60' in order to put a sign on it, instead of just leaving it there as an eyesore and feels it will enhance their business as well. Mr. Cromer asked if they would have to add more structure to support that size of sign. Mr. Wells replied no. Mr. Taylor asked that after the size of the sign is increased, if it will still meet the required wind factor. Mr. Wells replied yes, and he had an engineer send documentation stating that it would. Mr. Mitchell stated that the drawing shows 30' from the ground to the top of the sign on the side, but yet you are asking for 60'. Mr. Wells stated that the very top of the sign that he refers to as a pineapple will be removed and then it will be 60'. Ms. Peavy asked if this was going to be a franchise property. Mr. Wells replied no, it is independent. Ms. Peavy asked if the sign was going to be electronic or wood sign. Mr. Wells replied that it will not be powered, but would be solar lights, but actually made to look like a billboard, constructed of wood and mounted to the steel, they would get a vinyl company to do the lettering. Mr. Cromer stated so it is more like a billboard. Mr. Wells replied yes, and would have their name on both sides. Ms. Peavy asked why can't you use what is there without asking for a variance. Mr. Wells stated they needed the additional height because you can't see it from the interstate. Mr. Cromer stated that the billboard would be pushed on up to 60'. Mr. Wells replied yes and it would be a professional sign and look nice. Mr. Wells stated that the

Page 2
ZBOA Minutes
July 21, 2020

last hurricane that went through here did not affect the sign. Mr. Wells said he was trying to clean up that side of town in hopes it will invite others to come to the exit. Mr. Taylor asked what kind of business was it going to be. Mr. Wells responded an Adult Store, and they are currently in Wenona at Exit 96, but that exit was bought out by the state, so they are having to relocate to Exit 104. Mr. Clark stated that he still didn't have the name of the business. Mr. Wells replied Adult Central Super Store. Mr. Mitchell stated there are 3 requests, one is the height, change the required top of the sign from 20' to 60'. The second request is a variance from the required sign face area of 100' sq. ft. to 432 sq. ft. on each side and then the third one is a variance from the required sign (which are the posts) of 130 sq. ft. to 648 sq. ft. on each side. Mr. Cromer asked if there were any further questions. There were none. Mr. Cromer, concluded the public portion of the hearing.

MEETING

After discussion, the chairman asked for a motion.

VOTE: A motion was made by Dale Mitchell to **approve** the requested height variance from the required 20' to 60', and to approve the other two requests as written. Mr. Taylor stated that he would prefer the sign face area be reduced to a 10x30 instead of 12x36, Ms. Peavy stated that she agreed with a smaller size sign face area also. Mr. Cromer stated that he would summarize the motion to approve the requested variance from 20' to 60', and on number 2 and 3, I understand the board wants to discuss further. Mr. Taylor suggested they put 1, 2 and 3 to separate votes, the board agreed. 1) Mr. Cromer asked if there were further discussion on variance #1, and if not, was there a second, Mr. Taylor voted to second the motion, Mr. Cromer asked who all was in favor, Ms. Peavy and Mr. Clark voted no, Mr. Cromer voted to approve the requested variance from the required 20' to 60' on the sign height. Vote carried 3-2. Mr. Clark and Ms. Peavy opposed.

2) Variance from the required sign face area of 100 sq. ft. to 432 sq. ft. (12x36) on each side, Mr. Cromer asked for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Mitchell to approve as written, Mr. Cromer asked for a second, Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve a 10x30, Mr. Cromer asked if there were further discussion on the amended motion to approve a 10x30, Mr. Mitchell replied with a second to amend the motion to a 10x30. Mr. Cromer asked if there were any further discussion on the amendment, there were none. The vote to approve the requested 12x36 was denied and the vote to **approve** a 10x30 was carried 3-2 with Ms. Peavy and Mr. Clark opposing. 3) Variance from the required sign structure area of 130 sq. ft. to 648 sq. ft. for the purpose of placing signage on an existing sign pole structure. Mr. Cromer asked for a motion. Mr. Taylor stated that size would change because of the amended motion to approve a 10x30. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the sign structure to 600 sq. ft. or less, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Cromer asked for all who were in favor. The vote was carried 3-2 with Ms. Peavy and Mr. Clark opposing. The property is zoned GC (General Commercial) and is located at 566 Farmers Market Road.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Ray Cromer
Chairman

Connie Youngblood
Secretary/Planning Director

