

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

January 17, 2012

MEMBERS

Chairman Jones
Alderman Burtle
Alderman Vota
Alderman Lawrence
Mayor Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT

George Calvert
Alderman Dorchinecz
Alderman Walters
Alderman Koonce
City Attorney Fines

Shirley Sams
Beth Brotherton
Chris Lockwood

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

BILLBOARDS

The Committee has been discussing whether or not to allow billboards within City Limits. Attorney Beth Brotherton representing her client Nicholas Giacomini made a request at the October Ordinance Committee Meeting to amend the Taylorville City Code to allow billboards in a Commercial District as a Special Use. Mr. Giacomini is planning to purchase approximately 4.234 acres located north of the Christian County YMCA.

There has been opposition from some of the Aldermen stating they didn't want billboards on every corner with inappropriate language or pictures, such as liquor and cigarettes leading into town. Attorney Fines informed the Committee that municipalities cannot control the content on the billboards. There was discussion regarding handling each request as presented with Attorney Fines responding they need to make specific regulations and stated the City may want to create a new chapter in the Taylorville Municipal Code Book for Special Zoning.

He was asked if the Committee would incorporate language to allow a billboard in a C-2 area and this requested area of C-2 is approved by the Plan Commission and City Council and then another request is made in another C-2 area but is voted down by the Plan Commission and City Council could that person appeal. Attorney Fines stated anyone can appeal a decision, but the City has the right to regulate location as long as the City doesn't encroach on content, as all the cases regarding content are litigations in federal law.

There was also discussion regarding Billboard Plazas. Some of the Aldermen in attendance stated they would be in favor of such an area perhaps by the Airport or the Industrial Park by ADM while others are against erecting anymore at all. Another concern was the condition of some of the billboards around town that are dilapidated and need to be taken down. Attorney Fines stated there are steps that can be taken to address that problem.

Chairman Jones advised there would be no C-2 District Special Use applications accepted until City Attorney Fines has drafted the Billboard/Outdoor Advertising Ordinance incorporating all recommended changes and is accepted by the City Council.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to accept the Draft Ordinance prepared by the City Attorney amending the applicable sections of the Taylorville Municipal Code to allow billboards in a C-2 District only as a Special Use. Motion 2-2.

Alderman Burtle asked that the Billboard issue be placed on the February 6, 2012 City Council Agenda.

Health and Building Officer Report

Health and Building Officer George Calvert presented pictures and updated the Committee on various property cleanups and violations.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Lawrence to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 P.M.

Bruce Jones, Chairman
Ordinance Committee

BRUCE THE MOTION FROM THE 11-17-11 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING WORDING TO THE MOTION FOR FEES:

AND TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE TO CHARGE A \$100.00 ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE.