

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
August 18, 2022

MEMBERS

Chairman Skultety
Alderman Dorchinecz
Alderman Budd
Alderman Bryant

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Barry
Alderman Wilson
Alderman Brown
Alderman Olive

Clerk Lilly
Treasurer Miles
Chief Adermann
HBO Goodall

Chairman Skultety called the meeting to order at 7:11 P.M.

OUTDOOR BILLBOARDS OR SIGNS IN AN I-1 ZONING DISTRICT

City Attorney Romano supplied a draft Ordinance regarding Outdoor Billboards or Signs in an I-1 Zoning District. This Ordinance would allow a digital sign to be placed on a property zoned I-1 and to advertise places other than the specific property. This would allow for more broad advertising. This would require a Public Hearing and Plan Commission Meeting prior to approval by the City Council. It was noted that Illinois Department of Transportation must be involved and approve signage in this area due to the proximity to Route 29. Attorney Tom Finks, representing the prospective owner WC Media, stated that his client plans to make a full price purchase of the lot, and this is conditional upon the sign being approved and allowed. They will be selling advertising on the board to other businesses and will promote the City and the Industrial Park. HBO Goodall noted that there are other I-1 districts that border residential areas. It was determined that this provision could be limited to only the I-1 District located in the Taylorville Industrial Park.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Bryant to direct the City Clerk to set a Public Hearing and Plan Commission Meeting for October 3, 2022 prior to the City Council Meeting regarding An Ordinance Amending Sections 10-6-2 A of the Taylorville City Code (re: outdoor billboards or signs in only I-1 Zoning District located in the Taylorville Industrial Park). The motion carried (4-0).

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

City Attorney Romano provided a draft Ordinance regarding Solar Energy Systems, specifically to address, regulate, and set standard procedures for the installation and operation of residential solar systems. Information from Fire Chief Adermann, as well as the City of Effingham, Illinois was used to assist development of the Ordinance. Per the wishes of the Committee, the Ordinance does not allow for ground mount systems, although Fire Chief Adermann requested ground systems be considered and allowed with additional requirements regarding fencing and set-backs. He stated that the ground mounted systems are safer than roof mounted systems, and noted that over time the panels will become smaller. Any previously ground mounted systems would be grandfathered in. All solar systems will require an inspection by the Fire Department prior to operation as part of the permit process to ensure all safety protocols have been met.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Dorchinecz to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Clerk to set a Public Hearing and Plan Commission Meeting for October 3, 2022 prior to the City Council Meeting to allow for passage of An Ordinance Adding Chapter 13 to Title 9 of the Taylorville City Code (re: solar energy systems) with modification regarding Ground Mounted Solar Energy Systems. The motion carried (4-0).

LIQUOR LICENSE LIMITS BY CLASSIFICATION

Chairman Skultety expressed concern regarding the growing number of liquor license issued in the City of Taylorville. He is interested in establishing limits on the various classifications. There are presently 72 total liquor licenses, with 46 of those including gaming. Currently, of those, 14 are gaming parlors. It was noted that Springfield has a 1:3,387 per capita ratio of resident to liquor license. Decatur has a ratio of 1:2,313, and Taylorville has a ratio of 1:818. He suggested putting a cap on Gaming Licenses of 40, and grandfather all that

are currently operating, and at some point, not issuing any new liquor license regardless of category. Alderman Budd requested to increase gaming terminal fees of \$25.00 per terminal to \$250.00 per terminal, increase the liquor license fees, and cap the total of gaming parlors only. This proposed fee increase will be on a future Finance Committee agenda for discussion. Due to many prospective businesses coming to the City, the Mayor suggested that no limits be established to allow these new businesses to obtain licenses. The gaming produces much needed revenue for the City that would be difficult to replace. There was no determination or resolution to the number of licenses, and no action taken.

HBO UPDATES

HBO Goodall was present to report a recap of this month's activity, highlighting many building permits, high grass and animal control issues. He will be seeking implementation of an Animal Humane Investigator Ordinance to be implemented, mirroring the County. He is also requesting to purchase a tranquilizer gun and attend training for proper use. Cost of the gun is approximately \$1,600.00. This will be placed on the next City Council Agenda for approval.

ANY OTHER MATTERS


Julie Lilly discussed a property on Taylorville Boulevard that has multiple City Code violations, concern for the surrounding neighborhood safety and property values, and she requested the City take action to require it to be cleaned up to meet City Code.

Chief Adermann reminded the Council that ARPA Funds can not be listed or used as a direct payment for any equipment or purchases.

Chief Adermann requested that the BDD application process include sprinkler systems as an acceptable expense for downtown buildings to prevent spread of fires. The estimated cost for a system is \$5-6.00 per square foot and must be considered for many projects in the downtown square area.

Motion by Alderman Dorchinecz and seconded by Alderman Bryant to adjourn. The motion carried (4-0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.


Chris Skultety, Chairman
Ordinance Committee