

Council Meeting – January 2, 2020

Mayor David B. Eaton called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following council members present: Shane Suttor, Troy Ethington, Pam Carter, Jon Swindler, Mike Zoeller and Frank Page.

City Employees Present: Barry Edington, Jennifer Herrell, Officer Bevil and Carla Wainscott.

Invocation: Pastor Chris Platt, Highland Baptist Church

City Attorney: Steven Gregory

All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

Minutes/Regular Meeting of December 19, 2019

Councilmember Carter moved to approve the minutes of the regular called meeting of December 19, 2019, as read by the council members prior to the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Page.

All voted “aye” and the motion carried.

Mayor Eaton reiterated how the next item on the agenda will take place. The mayor advised the audience on how the public comments section will work. He noted the time that will be given to everyone to speak regarding the ordinance.

Ordinance/An Ordinance Annexing Property to the City of Shelbyville and Approving a Zone Change – 1st Reading, Steven Gregory

Steven Gregory, City Attorney, read an ordinance annexing property to the City of Shelbyville and approving a zone change. The property in question is located at the intersection of Discovery Boulevard and Midland Industrial Drive. The zone change is from Agricultural (A) to Multi-family Residential District (R-4).

Councilmember Page moved to approve the ordinance for a first reading. Seconded by Councilmember Zoeller.

Public Comments – Mr. Steven Houston, Attorney, is representing multiple citizens who reject this rezoning of agricultural land and other zoned properties in violation of the comprehensive plan that was adopted 2 years ago. He stated to council that they should discard this ordinance due to Triple S Planning & Zoning recommendation. He believes that Triple S Planning & Zoning is incorrect in their findings and facts. The comprehensive plan was adopted for low density to medium density, not high-density development. The public was never given an opportunity to discuss their concerns at the first hearing of the Triple S Planning & Zoning meeting.

Mr. Charles Dale Kramer, of 582 Scott Station Road, is concerned about high crime. Violent crime that he read in a study is higher in high-density areas. How can a developer dictate how our county is developed? He hopes that the council take a closer look at the information and how it effects future development in our county.

Ms. Melody Ather, 475 Scott Station Road, indicated that the country setting is what she had been seeking for herself, and her rehabilitating and breeding horses both in the United States and Internationally. She would not have bought her land if she knew this development was going to occur. Ms. Ather had not received any notifications of Triple S Planning & Zoning until after the meetings by a third party. The rezoning of this property is inconsistent with the comprehensive plan as approved just recently. We do not want Shelby County to turn into an overcrowded large city. Shelby County Tourism website is something the Council may want to read.

Bonnie Burks Gray, 286 Joyce Station Road, is worried about the number of housing and traffic. The Planning & Zoning Commission is only listening to the developers and not the citizens of Shelbyville. It is necessary to keep the beautification of our city and county.

Richard Hawkins, 1034 Scott Station Road is concerned about the zoning change from agricultural to R4. The only thing the developers are interested in is their own financial gains. A major concern of his is the traffic and the parking on the streets. He is also concerned about how buses and emergency vehicles are going to get through the streets. Another concern is the R4 zoning.

John Talbott, Attorney, 1000 N. Hurstbourne Parkway, Louisville, Kentucky. He is speaking on behalf of the applicant and Land Design. He indicated that Shelby County is one of the fastest growing counties right now. R1 development is 434 lots, R4 is for smaller lots with green space. The density is closer to an R1 in this area, than an R4. It complies with the comprehensive plan. It will be an appropriate development.

Richard Hawkins, responding to John Talbott, spoke regarding R1 and R4 zoning.

Bonnie Burks Gray also wanted to speak about the Indianapolis area behind Martinsville. She is concerned about that area.

City Attorney's Report, Steven Gregory

Mr. Gregory wanted to update the council on the passing of the inter-local agreement on the sharing of business license with the County. The agreement was submitted to DLG on December 5, 2019, after the County had also done their resolution. Due to the transition in the administration in Frankfort the legal office was completely let go. Mr. Gregory received a call from their general Council, Matt Stevens, and is making our inter-local agreement a priority. Once we get the approval, he will be getting an ordinance together.

City Clerk's Report, Carla Wainscott

No Report.

Department Reports

Mrs. Jennifer Herrell, City Engineer/Public Works Department, gave an update on 612-618 Main Street Project. They have had environmental issues and starting back on dense grade. The Conference Center Project has 90% design plans, and bid plans will be advertised around February 5, 2020, with bid approval in March 2020. Litter abatement with the street sweeper and taking care of downtown consisted of 1150 miles of roadway in 2019. That amounts to about 4 thousand bags of waste that were removed from the streets. Paving is now complete and not far off from the budget.

Ryan Libke, Triple S Planning & Zoning, is working on sign regulations. The last time the signs have been updated was in 1994.

Barry Edington, Code Enforcement, gave the year-end numbers for permitting. We are down 15% from the previous year. Commercial permits were down 20% and down 25% for residential. Mr. Edington made a comment regarding the Indianapolis area behind Martinsville and that is on his radar for this year.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Eaton reported that the schedule for the bond issue for the Conference Center is with your packets and the ordinance will be on the next Council Agenda for January 16, 2020. Mr. Gregory is working with the Bond Attorney and the bid coincides with that project.

Council Report

Councilmember Suttor has recommended that a time capsule be located within the building of the new projects.

Adjourn

Councilmember Ethington moved to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Zoeller.

All voted "aye" and the motion to adjourn carried.

David B. Eaton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla A. Wainscott, City Clerk