

Minutes
City of Burlington Plan Commission
Police Dept. Courtroom
January 13, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Miller called the Plan Commission meeting to order this Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. followed by roll call: Aldermen Tom Vos and Steve Rauch; Commissioners John Lynch, Darrel Eisenhardt, Bob Henney and Catholic Central High School Representative Lauren Celano were present. Commissioner Bob Schulte was excused. Town of Burlington Representative Phil Peterson and Burlington High School Representative Ashley Kennedy were absent. Also present were: City Administrator Kevin Lahner, City Planner Patrick Meehan, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Patrick Scherrer and Alderman Katie Simenson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Vos moved and Commissioner Lynch seconded to approve the minutes of December 9, 2008. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to approve a Site Plan Application from Graphic House, Inc. on behalf of Pick & Save for property located at 1008 Milwaukee Avenue to install exterior signage.

- Mayor Miller opened this issue for discussion.
- Administrator Lahner explained to the commission that there are two issues with the proposal from Graphic House; one, Pick & Save does not have permission to put signage on the monument sign reserved for retail space not yet built, and two, the signage proposed for the building is over the 200 square foot limit.
- Mike Johnson, Graphic House Inc., approached the commission stating that they are not proposing to put signage on the monument and would like to request a deviation from the 200 square foot limit. He stated he feels with the setback of the building, a larger size sign is warranted and feels the aesthetics of the sign are appropriate.
- Administrator Lahner explained that a deviation from the square footage requirement requires the complete sign package for this phase of the Planned Unit Development to be reviewed by the city staff. He further recommending tabling this item until the sign package is ready, as well as having Roundy's give an explanation as to why a deviation is needed.
- Lauren Celano asked the commission if a request such as this has been done before. Mayor Miller explained that there are a few businesses that have requested signs larger than the square foot limitations, which consequently had been denied.

- Patrick Scherrer stated that he works with several sign companies and feels the municipal code is liberal with the sign restrictions. He further stated that most companies come in with plans smaller than the limitations.
- There were no further comments.

Alderman Vos moved and Commissioner Henney seconded to table a Site Plan Application for property located at 1008 Milwaukee Avenue. All in favor and the motion carried.

B. Consideration to recommend approval of Ordinance No.1876(18) to amend Section 315-71C and Table 13; and to repeal Sections 315-71E(c) and 315-72A(4)(b) of the Municipal Code in the B-1 and B-2 Zoning Districts to the Common Council.

- Mayor Miller opened this issue for discussion.
- Alderman Rauch questioned what would happen if the text amendment is approved. Patrick Scherrer responded stating that the current Pick & Save sign on Milwaukee Avenue would lose its conforming status and would need to be lowered to a 15 foot height once a panel is changed on the sign.
- Alderman Rauch questioned the reasoning behind the text amendment. Patrick Scherrer explained that the Pick & Save sign is one of the two tallest signs in the city and with the store moving to a new location, the opportunity to address the sign height is now.
- Alderman Vos and Commissioner Lynch both agreed that the signage along Milwaukee Avenue is important for businesses and visitors.
- There were now further comments.

Commissioner Lynch moved and Alderman Vos seconded to recommend approval of Ordinance 1876(18) to the Common Council.

All in favor and the motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

- Commissioner Henney questioned the status of the Jeff Way automotive dealership project in the old TSC building. Patrick Scherrer stated he has had no word yet as to the status, however Mr. Way has stated he will comply with all requirements.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Vos moved and Commissioner Lynch seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Recording Secretary
Megan E. Johnson
Assistant to the City Administrator