

MINUTES OF THE JOINT WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following members of City Council present:

Mayor, Russell Hamley
Council Member, Joyce Berube
Council Member, Greg Holden
Council Member, Jill Klein

Council Members Ernie English and Frances Wubbenhorst were not present at this meeting.

The roll of appointed officers for the Planning and Zoning Commission was taken with the following members present:

David Paul, Chairman
John Hanley, Commissioner
Rick Faircloth, Commissioner
Tom Eustace, Commissioner

Commissioners Debra Mergel, Keith Ormston and Darcy Mingoia were not in attendance.

Staff in attendance:

Mike Castro, City Manager
Ken Wall, City Attorney
Lorri Coody, City Secretary
Mark Bitz, Fire Chief
Danny Segundo, Director of Public Works

Discussion with possible action regarding Ordinance 2008-22 amending Section 14-88(a)(7)a of the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to prohibit the parking or storage of trucks, trailers, and equipment in zoning districts A, C, or C-2 approved July 21, 2008.

Mayor Hamley explained that the objectives for the Work Session Meeting are to:

1. Clarify the intent of Ordinance 2008-22
2. Insure that the enforcement is consistent with the intent
3. Clear-up any issues and/or problems that staff has encountered with the public concerning this new ordinance and its enforcement.

In achieving these objectives, Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the new Ordinance and compared the changes made to the language of the Ordinance before the changes were made. In the discussion that followed, it was noted that the City's Ordinance had

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always restricted the parking of vehicles over one ton in weight – that this requirement had not changed.

The Planning and Zoning Commission clarified their intent concerning the changes made to Section 14-88(a)(7)a of the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Chairman Paul told the Council that the Commission wanted to clarify and expand the items listed in this section of the Code and the Commission wanted to include side and back yards. He told Council that anything under one ton was not affected.

City Manager, Mike Castro explained staffs' interaction with the various groups and with the public. He explained that shortly after the letters went out to the public and Council began to receive calls that it became apparent that there was a discrepancy in the interpretation of the intent of the new ordinance. The problem area at that time was with the weight and commercial vehicles. Part of that seems to be clarified; however, the issue of commercial vehicles still may need some discussion.

The issue of magnetic signs was discussed as well as ladders on vehicles and if these items would cause vehicles to be in violation. Discussion was had about recreational vehicles and how and when trailers are recreational. For example, does putting a 4-wheeler on a trailer make it a recreational vehicle or does putting a canoe on a trailer make it recreational or a BBQ pit, etc. These were all questions posed to the Council and to the Planning and Zoning Commission by Staff. The City Attorney stated that Sec. 6, which outlines Recreational Vehicles, would cover this question, not Sec. 7.

The discussion ended with trucks and vans that are larger than one ton in weight and giving no consideration to commercial status would be in violation of the Ordinance.

As far as determining the weight of these vehicles, it was determined that this information can be retrieved through the license plate number via the vehicle identification number. Therefore, if it is suspected that a vehicle is overweight, the Police Department will need to get involved and run the reports on these vehicles.

Staff showed pictures that were taken around the City of potential violations to give Council and the P&Z an idea of the different violations that exist and the difficulty that the Code Enforcement Officer faces in determining violations. In viewing the pictures together, it gave both Staff and the governing bodies a clearer understanding of the issues.

Pictures were also viewed from the joint meeting held back in April 2008. These pictures contained various shots from around the City of situations for the Planning and Zoning Commission to consider by way of Ordinance changes in order to clean up the City of Jersey Village.

It was the consensus of both bodies that Rules and Ordinances are needed to improve the appearance of the City. It was agreed that there will be some resistance when recreational vehicles are addressed, but it was the consensus of both bodies that improvements were needed

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in the City's Code in this area. The 30 day enforcement of the current changes in Section 14-88(a)(7)a of the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance will begin on September 25, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Fields thanked the Council and P&Z for their work.

Joe Pennington asked if Council of the P&Z Chair had received his emails concerning his suggestions for Ordinance changes within the City of Jersey Village. Both the Mayor and Mr. Paul acknowledge receipt of his emails and his suggestions.

ADJOURN

There being no further business on the agenda the Joint Work Session of the City of Jersey Village City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Lorri Coody, City Secretary