

MINUTES FROM PUBLIC MEETING
CITY OF NORTH CANTON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018

1. Call to Order

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I'd like to call to order the public meeting, this was rescheduled from Monday, October 8th to today, October 22nd. We're scheduled to start at 6:30, let the record reflect we've started at 6:39. Clerk, would you call the roll please?

Roll call found the following Council members in attendance: Cerreta, Foltz, Fonte, Peters, Revoldt and Werren.

Thus having 6 in attendance.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you very much. And the purpose of this meeting is to obtain the public's input regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 1151- Signs. At this point, this is Member Revoldt's committee, I'll turn it over to Chairman Revoldt.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Thank you, Mr. President. As you know, we have two proposals that have moved through the Planning Commission regarding signs. The first regards an improvement to standing signs, in a process through which we would like to bring the amendment closer to conformance to our code. And then the second, and the one of interest to most of us is the transfer of institutions to a business category, which will liberalize principally sign usage for churches. Which was the genesis of this request. And this is the final, this and our subsequent vote this evening will put this matter to rest once the Mayor has signed the ordinance.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, very good, thank you for the recap. At this point if anyone wishes to speak against this proposed change, please step to the microphone, state your name and address.

CHUCK OSBORNE: 307 Fairview Street SE, North Canton, Ohio. I haven't gone over this with a fine tooth comb, nor do I think the Planning Commission has. For one thing, I don't know where the ordinance is on flag signs. I hope its outlawed them. Clear and simple. We're in a modern age here when its time for us to start minimizing these signs. Businesses generally have a structure with their name on it. Why do we need to have multiple, multiple signs on the building, out in front, everywhere? We have handheld GPS's right on our phone. If you want to know how to get to a place, and you've never been there, punch it in there, it'll take you right there. I don't have any stats, I dare say if anybody here in this room, or in North Canton wants to go to McDonald's, they know where to find it. Why do we need all these signs? I'm starting to notice, I just came back from Kentucky, for a week, and you're starting to see people catch on. To start minimizing these signs. You go to Walgreens, CVS, McDonald's up here, they've eliminated some signs up here. Its very attractive. Why don't we start leading the way? Instead of having all this clutter. I mean for years we've heard them talking about the Lincoln Highway corridor, the Tuscarawas going over towards Massillon. It's a ugly mess all up and down that corridor. Why don't we be innovative here? Everybody likes those kinds of words, there's a few people on Council that just love these buzz words. Why don't we lead the way? Now I understand that you need to accommodate some of these smaller businesses, that like to put out these little portable signs. Certainly businesses have certain things they want to feature. But we don't need all these signs. They're ugly. On process. This is like a rescheduling. I don't know what has gone on here. Whether it's the clerk...

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Osborne, we're here to discuss the merits of the proposed amendment, not the rescheduling of the meeting.

CHUCK OSBORNE: I'm talking about the process. The process has failed here. We're back here again. I don't know if this is a corrected version of what the Planning Commission has reviewed. Whether its been served up to Council, with what the Planning Commission did in fact review. I don't think there was a, like you know we do every year, the budget hearings, we go line item by line item. I never saw any of that before the Planning Commission. So, I just think our government bodies here in the last few years are, the due process is just falling apart. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, sir. All right, if there's, is there anyone else wishing to speak against the proposed amendment to the sign ordinance? All right, seeing none. Anyone want to speak in favor of the proposed sign ordinance? Okay, seeing none, Chairman Revoldt, any further comments before we vote, have the third reading tonight?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: No, I think everybody acknowledges that our process was slightly imperfect on this matter. We would have preferred to have the public at the front end. But we're here for the third. The record should reflect that no one has specifically objected to placing institutions in the business category.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, seeing there's no further comment, we will, a motion to adjourn this public hearing.

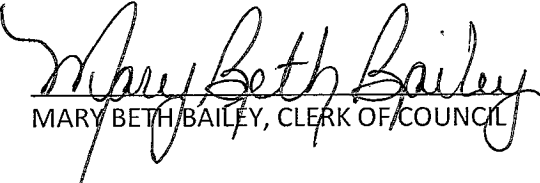
COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

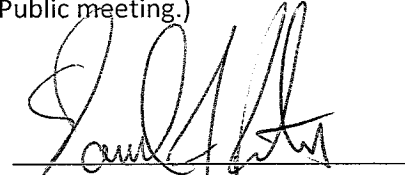
COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 6 to adjourn.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, we are adjourned.

(Let the reflect Charles Osborne set up a tripod and appeared to videotape the Public meeting.)


MARY BETH BAILEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL


DANIEL JEFF PETERS, PRESIDENT