

MINUTES PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

December 14, 2015

Chairman Bill Cagle called the Pickens County Planning Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. ATTENDANCE

Members of the Pickens County Planning Commission in attendance were:

Bill Cagle
Pat Holmes
Jim Fowler
Linda Casey
Clayton Preble
Harold Hensley
Maurice Hendrix

County Staff in attendance:

Richard Osborne - Director-Planning & Development
Phil Landrum-Attorney
Marcia Garrett-Secretary

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey-KnowPickens.com
Dan Pool-Pickens County Progress
Brian Maloof
Bobby Howard
Numerous Pickens County Residents

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MINUTES

A motion was made by Clayton Preble, seconded by Pat Holmes, to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting as written. Approval of minutes was unanimous.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A public hearing was held regarding a request submitted by Brian Maloof to rezone 8.931 acres of property located 3153 Salem Church Road, Jasper, Georgia. The current use listed for the property is Rural Residential (RR). If approved, the intent for the property is to become a designated location on the Georgia Agritourism Trail and to contribute to the agricultural business of Pickens County and the state of Georgia. The applicant seeks to provide organic produce and eggs to restaurants and provide a destination for hands-on education for alternative farming. An approximately 640 square foot hydroponic greenhouse is planned for the summer of 2016. The applicant proposes to have a sustainable small farm using organic and hydroponic growing methods while incorporating alternative energy sources such as solar. After the close of the public hearing, Clayton Preble made a motion, seconded by Linda Casey, to approve the rezone request. The Planning Commission voted 7 (yes) (Bill Cagle, Pat Holmes, Linda Casey, Harold Hensley, Jim Fowler, Maurice Hendrix and Clayton Preble) to 0 (no) to approve the rezone request.

A public hearing was held regarding a request submitted by Hibbymo Properties–Jasper, LLC to rezone 6.22 acres of property located on Cove Road, Jasper, Georgia. The current use listed for the property is Rural Residential (RR). If approved, the intent is to build a 9,100 square feet Dollar General retail store in accordance with the site plan provided in the application. Entry to and exit from the site would be only from Cove Road. The unused portion of the property to the north and west would remain natural to serve as a buffer. After the close of the public hearing with much opposition to the rezone, Clayton Preble made a motion, seconded by Jim Fowler, to accept the staff’s recommendation to deny the rezone request. The Planning Commission voted 7 (yes) (Bill Cagle, Pat Holmes, Linda Casey, Harold Hensley, Jim Fowler, Maurice Hendrix and Clayton Preble) to 0 (no) to deny the rezone request.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

Clayton Preble and Bill Cagle thanked everyone from coming out and Mr. Howard for his presentation on the Cove Road rezone. They encouraged the public to attend the meetings and that this group seemed to do more study and homework to justify their reasons for opposing the Cove Road rezone.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was mention of a lot of bicycle traffic on Grandview Road.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Linda Casey, seconded by Harold Hensley, to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Unanimous approval.