



**CITY OF HEDWIG VILLAGE, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
JOINT PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 15, 2021
6:00 P.M. - 955 PINEY POINT ROAD**

MINUTES

In accordance with Governor Abbott's Executive Order or Proclamation dated March 13, 2020 and continued by monthly Executive Orders or Proclamations to the most recent Proclamation dated April 5, 2021 relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to minimize face-to-face contact, the City of Hedwig Village held the April 15, 2021 Joint Public Hearing in person with several participants joining the meeting via Zoom, as noted below.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Muecke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Brian T. Muecke

Councilmember Harry J. Folloder
Councilmember Dane Johnson
(via Zoom, arrived at 6:10 p.m.)
Councilmember Susan Mathews
Councilmember Shirley Rouse
Councilmember Matt Woodruff

Kelly Johnson, City Admin./Secr.-
Treas.
David Gott, Police Chief
Alan Petrov, City Attorney
Kevin Taylor, Building Official
Evan DuVall, Asst. Building Official
Lisa Modisette, Asst. City Secretary

Planning and Zoning Commission Members:

Scott Davis
Tom Roth

Andrea Hermann
Robert Wiener

Absent: Barbara Abrams, Planning and Zoning Member

2. JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

To receive input and comments, either oral or written, for the purpose of considering amendments to Article II, Definitions and Interpretation, Section 202, Definitions; and Article V, Zoning Regulations, Section 505, Residential District A and C, Subsection B.10, Fences, of the Hedwig Village Planning and Zoning Code to add a definition for backyards and allow taller fences.

Jess Lisenby, 11122 Beinhorn Road, spoke in favor of a fence in the front yard and possibly a taller fence in the backyard. She stated she has small children and pets and a front yard fence would be a safety feature for her yard. She is in favor of allowing front yard fences for houses on busy streets. She stated Beinhorn Road is a busy road and she is concerned about the safety of her children and pets when they are in the front yard. She would prefer a four foot wrought iron fence in the front yard, but would agree to a three foot fence. She stated other Hedwig Village houses on Beinhorn Road have fences

in the front yard that are grandfathered. The City of Piney Point Village also allows front yard fences along Beinhorn Road.

Councilmember Rouse asked if Mrs. Lisenby envisioned driveway gates as well as a front yard fence.

Mrs. Lisenby stated she has a circular driveway and she does envision gates for her driveway in addition to the low fence in her front yard. She stated her property has parking pads at the ends of her driveway. The parking pads do not obstruct the traffic on Beinhorn Road or the City's right-of-way.

Alma Shields, 931 Magdalene Drive, provided a written letter in opposition to the proposed increase in fence height. She stated the proposed ordinance does not specify how much taller the fence height might be. She is opposed to any fence height above the current height of eight feet.

Chuck Mathews, 11729 Spriggs Way, submitted a text, via mayor Muecke, in favor of taller fences but not much taller than currently allowed.

Pat Murphy, 11510 Echo Hollow, stated a vegetative fence could alleviate the issue of light spilling over from one property onto another property. A vegetative fence would be better than a taller wooden fence. He stated it should not be difficult to accomplish the goal of dealing with the light spillage.

Councilmember Rouse stated she had two questions regarding the proposed ordinance. Is it the intent of the proposed ordinance amendment to include front and backyard fences? Will Planning and Zoning consider an extension on top of an existing fence instead of a taller fence?

Alma Shields asked what will be the proposed maximum height of the fence? What will the process be to ensure safety? Will a fence structure be certified by an engineer? She stated she is concerned about the safety of others regarding adding material to the top of a fence.

Mayor Muecke stated a resident spoke at a previous meeting and complained about a neighbor's new house. The light from the neighbor's new house spilled over into his backyard. The complainant provided pictures of the new house and the light spilling over into his backyard.

Alma Shield stated the complainant has made no effort to speak with her about his complaint.

Mayor Muecke asked if her backyard fence was new, what was the height, was it her fence or the neighbor's fence.

Alma Shields stated the fence was new and eight feet tall. She expressed concern that pictures of her house have been shown at the public meeting. She stated the complainant has brought election candidates around to her house to complain. She stated she had not been notified of any meeting in which her house was a topic of discussion.

Matt Woodruff explained the process of proposing changes to the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Code and the need for a Joint Public Hearing. He stated the Planning and Zoning Commission discussed the fence topic and could not reach a consensus. P&Z will continue to discuss the topic after the Joint Public Hearing before making a recommendation to City Council. City Council may or may not take action to make a recommended change to the Code. Councilmember Woodruff stated he was unsure why the complainant has not spoken with Ms. Shields.

There were no other speakers.

3. ADJOURN

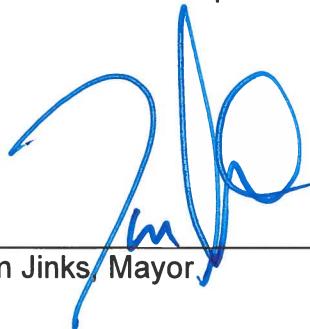
Motion was made by Councilmember Folloder and seconded by Councilmember Rouse to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion was made by Planning and Zoning Member Hermann and seconded by Planning and Zoning Member Wiener to adjourn at 6:25 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approved and accepted on May 20, 2021.



Tom Jinks, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lisa Modisette, Asst. City Secretary