

PRESENT: R. Thomas, Chairman
C. Bragg, Vice Chairman
R. Harris
L. Howdyshell
T. Jennings
B. Schindler

L. Tate, Senior Planner
J. Wilkinson, Director of Community Development

ABSENT: K. Leonard

VIRGINIA: At the Called Meeting of the Augusta County Planning Commission held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. in the Board Room, Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

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The Planning Commission members traveled to the following site, which will be considered at the Public Hearing.

Comsonics Properties, LLC
Keezletown Road
Weyers Cave, VA

Chairman

Secretary

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B. Schindler

L. Tate, Senior Planner
J. Wilkinson, Director of Community Development

ABSENT: K. Leonard

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Meeting of the Augusta County Planning Commission held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Mr. Robert Thomas stated as there were six (6) members present, there was a quorum.

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Minutes

Mrs. Carolyn Bragg moved to approve the minutes of the called and regular meeting held on April 12, 2022.

Mr. Larry Howdysshell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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Public Hearing

Mr. Thomas stated that there are two items on the agenda for a Public Hearing.

Mrs. Leslie Tate introduced the first agenda item as a request to rezone from General Industrial to General Industrial with a Public Use Overlay approximately 1.68 acres of an

approximately 15.71 acres (TMP 027C1 1 17 portion) owned by Comsonics Properties LLC and located off of Keezletown Road (Route 750) opposite but between the intersections of Keezletown Road (Route 750) and Gentry Road and Keezletown Road (Route 750) and Lofton Drive in Weyers Cave in the Middle River district.

Mrs. Tate stated that the additional uses permitted on the property would be a water storage tank, a water booster station, and a water storage tank / antennas.

Mr. Thomas asked if the applicant was present and wished to speak.

Mr. William Monroe with the Augusta County Service Authority stated that the booster station would supply Mt. Sidney which is currently getting their water supply from Verona. The booster would allow water in the lower pressure areas in Weyers Cave to be pushed to Mt. Sidney. Mr. Monroe stated they are limited in height of the tank to 166' by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Mr. Bill Schindler asked if the tank would assist with the water pressure of existing customers.

Mr. Monroe stated that it would.

Mrs. Bragg asked how many gallons the tank would hold.

Mr. Monroe stated that the proposal is for a 1-million-gallon tank.

Mrs. Bragg asked if the tank would be lit.

Mr. Monroe said that lighting is mandatory.

Mr. Thomas opened the public hearing and asked if anyone present wished to speak.

With no one to speak, Mr. Thomas closed the public hearing.

Mrs. Bragg stated that she felt the added fire flow and additional back up is important and made a motion to approve the request.

Mr. Jennings seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Tate read the next item on the agenda which was an ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division C. Single Residential Dwelling Districts. Article XIII. Single Family Residential (SF) Districts. Section 25-133. Uses permitted by Administrative Permit. D. Domestic Chickens.

Mrs. Tate stated that the amendment would remove the following conditions:

9. Further all unexplained bird deaths shall be reported to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services prior to transport to the county landfill.

12. Permits shall be valid for one (1) year. Each existing permit must be renewed annually by filing a renewal application with the Community Development Department along with the payment of an annual license fee established in section 19-53 of the Augusta County Code. Notification of adjacent property owners is not required for permit renewals.

13. Each chicken will be tagged with an identification band provided by the county at the time the permit is issued, which shall be attached to either leg or wing.

18. Upon finding by the zoning administrator that there is warning or equivalent notice or advisory or guidance issued by federal state authorities regarding a present or forecasted substantial threat of the potential transmission or spread of avian influenza or other poultry disease, no further permits shall be issued until such time that, by similar notice or advisory or guidance, the threat has been recognized by federal or state authorities as having been eliminated.

Mrs. Tate noted that since 2017 when the domestic chicken ordinance was passed, 12 permits have been issued by the county and since 2015, 23 complaints have been received by the Community Development office concerning chickens.

With no one present Mr. Thomas opened and closed the public hearing.

Mrs. Bragg stated that she felt that changes concerning the annual renewal and tagging of the chickens need to stay how they currently are to protect residential neighborhoods.

Mr. Howdyshell stated that he understands the concern in residential areas but felt the ordinance needs to be streamlined.

Mr. Thom Jennings stated that he was in favor of the changes and made a motion to approve the amendments as presented.

Mr. Bill Schindler seconded the motion which passed with a 5 to 1 vote with Mrs. Bragg being the dissenting vote.

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Staff Reports

Mrs. Tate discussed with the commissioners the agenda items for the June Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.

Mr. Howdyshell made a motion to recommend to the Board of Zoning Appeals a concern for the number of dogs permitted on the request from Kathryn Trout.

Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

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Adjournment

With there being no other business to discuss Mr. Howdysshell made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was carried by acclimation.

Chairman

Secretary