

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING
March 15th, 2022
6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Glass called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Heiney, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Townsend, and County Clerk Davidson. The meeting was available via Zoom.

II. Special Exception in Agriculture: Concentrated Outdoor Commercial-962 Gordon Road (Tax Map 062, Parcel 004 C3) Stillwater Trace, LLC- Ann Walker

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board and stated that Anne Walker had applied to have an event venue located at 962 Gordon Road, Tax Map 062, Parcel 004 C3. The structure is a pole barn and has already been used for private events. Ms. Walker is asking for the pole barn to be opened up to the public for rental purposes. The board of appeals recommended approval with no conditions. For consistency purpose, Commissioner Thrash inquired about the hours of operation. The Board of Appeals recommended that Ms. Walker follow the County's Noise Ordinance which shuts down the sound but not the event.

Anne Walker of 657 Fredonia Church Road addressed the board. Ms. Walker stated that she lives on the property with the pole barn that she bought from Leila Bush Sumner which has been in the Bush Family for a very long time. The best access to the property is from Gordon Road. She bought the property with 155 acres continuous to what Leila Bush Sumner owned. They had no buildings on the property and they wanted to have a place for her son, a pig farmer, to live on so they bought an additional twenty-five acres. Ms. Walker said that her church and other people come there for events and encouraged her to rent it out.

III. Rezoning from Residential 4 to Highway Commercial-1400 Old 41 Highway Tax Map 018 portion of Parcel 030B-Bedsole Investments

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board and stated that Bedsole Investments at 1400 Old 41 Hwy Tax Map 018 portion of parcel 030B. Bedsole Investments is the owner but the applicant is represented by Jason Lovett. He has applied to rezone three acres. The parent tract is about eight acres and three acres would front Old Hwy 41. They would like to rezone this portion of the parcel to Highway Commercial. The applicant agreed to maintain the buffer that is already there and add buffers to it between the duplexes and the existing shop plus any other buffers that are necessary. The Planning and Zoning Commission board recommended approval.

Jason Lovett of 1198 Brown Road Griffin, Georgia, Lamar County addressed the board. Mr. Lovett stated that they run a small shop that repairs roll-off containers. It is an auto body shop for dumpsters. They contract with companies that bring in dumpsters and they refurbish them. They take the bottoms out, grind them, paint them and release them to the company. Mr. Lovett said that there was a citizen who had an issue with the traffic of their trucks on Trice Road. Trice Road has a “no-thru truck” sign therefore they have re-routed their trucks. Their property is surrounded by other commercial truck traffic. They have about 100 dumpsters on the property. They follow safety procedures and have the necessary fire safety equipment in case of a fire. The dumpsters are required to be empty when they come on the property. They have three people who weld, one other person that is being trained, and four other people around the State. Once the dumpsters leave the property they are taken somewhere throughout the State. They have operations in other cities and counties that distribute their dumpsters. Improvements to their facility were made by pouring new concrete in the pad areas, installing new LED lights, installing new gutters, and painting all of their columns. They have a good relationship with their neighbors. Mr. Lovett stated that their business is a contributor to the county's revenue.

IV. Rezoning from Residential 3 to Commercial 2-Vacant 1.76 Acre Lot on VFW Road (Tax Map 33, Parcel 71)-Thomas Moss

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board and stated that Thomas Moss has applied to rezone his 1.76-acre tract located on VFW Road Tax Map 33, Parcel 71. It is currently zoned Residential 3 and he would like for it to be zoned Commercial 2 for marketing purposes. Mr. Moss did not attend the Planning Commissioner board meeting so they tabled his request. Planning and Community Development Director Buice has been unable to contact Mr. Moss. She asked that if the board approved the rezoning request that a 25 ft. buffer be planted to the left of the property.

V. Special Exception in Agriculture for Small Engine/ATV Repair for 1269 Hwy 341 South-Tax Map 063 Parcel 023 Michael Thomason

Planning and Community Development Director Buice addressed the board and stated that Michael Thomason has applied for a Special Exception in Agriculture (AR) for a small engine/ATV repair. He would like to do this on the side and if it grows, he will purchase commercial space. The property is located at 1269 Hwy 341 South Tax Map 063 Parcel 023 and is on 3.14 acres. The board of appeals recommended approval with no conditions. The ATVs will be stored in the building on the property. There have been no issues with the surrounding neighbors. There are no restrictions on hours of operation in the Home Occupation Ordinance but could be a consideration for this particular request. The board discussed setting the hours for cranking the ATVs from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. as a condition to the Special Exception.

VI. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Heiney made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at approximately 6:28 p.m. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Bennie Horton, Vice-Chairman

Robert Heiney, Commissioner

Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Carlette Davidson, County Clerk