

ALTON PLAN COMMISSION MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 9, 2015 – 1:15 p.m.
(As unapproved by the Plan Commission)

PRESENT: Mark Hackworth (Chairman), John Rain, Bill Stoutenborough, Joe Blair, Barry Clayton, Anne Doucleff, Gary Doerr, Terry Dooley, Todd Harpole, Martha Kane

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Asselmeier (Deputy Director of Development and Housing), Jim Schrempf (Corporation Counselor), and Michelle Heinold (Secretary)

Chairman Hackworth called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. Roll call was taken with 10 present and 0 absent. Motion was made by Joe Blair and seconded by Terry Dooley to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 28, 2015. Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Christopher Hinkle petitioned for a special use permit at 558 and 560 E. Broadway, Alton, Illinois, for a tattoo parlor.

**Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Anne Doucleff to open the public hearing.
Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.**

Jim Schrempf explained the public hearing procedures and explained what was discussed and voted on at the last Plan Commission public hearing pertaining to tattoo parlors. The City Council voted in favor of the text amendment and sent it back to the Plan Commission for their vote again.

Chris Hinkle was present and explained that he wants to relocate his tattoo parlor to E Broadway and make renovations to the building. He explained his operation.

Jim Schrempf asked Chris Hinkle if he got a copy of Matt Asselmeier's memorandum and if he had any questions? Mr. Asselmeier went through each restriction for Mr. Hinkle and Mr. Hinkle stated the changes he would like to make on the restrictions. See attached memorandum.

Much discussion incurred on signage, upkeep and maintenance on the building, handicap accessibility, and bench placement on a sidewalk. Mr. Hinkle did agree to not place a bench on the sidewalk.

In audience in favor:

- Tom Allred stated he has owned an insurance agency for 32 years and is a customer of body art. He has visited tattoo parlors all over different countries. They and their customers are the nicest and most professional people he has ever met. He is also a customer of Mr. Hinkle.
- Christine Favilla organizes litter clean up groups all over the city. Why would the city not want trash cans or a cigarette diffuser in that block of E. Broadway. It keeps the littering down. Mr. Asselmeier stated he was not sure the city has ever had a request in that area for a trash can. Placement of a trash can on city property could be discussed at a later date.
- Monica Mason stated that 21 to 25% of people now get tattoos with 40% of them being between the ages of 26 and 40. One out of four people get tattoos. 45 million Americans have them. Professional women between the ages of 30 and 40 are getting them. People are spending hundreds to thousands of dollars for them. Everyone should applaud the expansion of his business.
- Sharon Jackson, an urban planner, asked if this business has had police calls, code violations, etc. If this business has had no negative impact to businesses, it should be allowed.
- Robert Stephen was present to speak on behalf of John Simmons. He read a letter from Mr. Simmons in favor of the special use permit. Mr. Simmons now employs 250 people and he encourages business and welcomes them.
- Sara McGibany works with the Illinois Main Street Program and has talked to many directors of other communities in regards to tattoo parlors. They all noted no problems with the parlors.
- James Ragolsky, owner of the new beer brewery in downtown, spoke in favor.
- Felicia Breen is in favor.

In audience in opposition:

- BJ Becker stated Mr. Hinkle has a good character, artistic skills, and is worthy of being on Broadway at a later time. She stated anchor tenants should come first like Jacoby Art Center. Once strong anchors are in place, then Mr. Hinkle could be allowed to locate there.
- Mike Kelly stated he was not in opposition of Mr. Hinkle. He is in favor of the development of Alton. What does Alton need and what is best for the future of Alton? He has been upset with the process of this special use permit for Mr. Hinkle from the meeting at the Jacoby Art Center to the City Council meeting in May. Mr. Kelly made comments about other speakers in today's hearing and comments about Edwardsville being a college town. St. Charles does not allow tattoo parlors. Tattoos can restrict individuals from getting into the military. The C-4 district is the front door to our city.
- Beth Johnes had some statements to Mike Kelly about the City Council meeting and the bikers that were there were there for a proclamation then they left, there were not there for the tattoo parlor.
- Rick Lauschke stated this hearing should be about the zoning, whether it is good or not in a C-4 district.
- Brittney Kohler stated she was in the Marine Corps for 4 years and has 2 tattoos on her wrist, but she was grandfathered into the service.

Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Anne Doucleff to adjourn the public hearing.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

The following were motions on the special use permit restrictions:

Restriction 1 – Motion was made by Anne Doucleff and seconded by Bill Stoutenborough.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 2 – Motion was made by Gary Doerr and seconded by Terry Dooley on the amendment to the extra signage on the east and southwest sides of the building.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 3 – Motion was made by Anne Doucleff and seconded by Terry Dooley.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 4 – Motion was made by Bill Stoutenborough and seconded by Martha Kane.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 5 (change red to earth tones) – Motion was made by Bill Stoutenborough and seconded by Joe Blair.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 6 – Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Bill Stoutenborough.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 7 – No vote taken.

Restriction 8 – Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Bill Stoutenborough.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 9 – Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Bill Stoutenborough.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Restriction 10 – Motion was made by Martha Kane and seconded by Bill Stoutenborough.

Vote was 10 to 0 in favor.

Motion was made by Terry Dooley and seconded by Joe Blair for a special use permit on the property identified by permanent parcel number 23-2-07-14-08-203-004, Section 14, Township 5 North, Range 10 West of the Third Principal Meridian, also known as 558 and 560 E. Broadway, Alton, Illinois, for a tattoo parlor, with restrictions (see attached).

Vote was:

In favor – Mark Hackworth, Bill Stoutenborough, Gary Doerr, Todd Harpole, Martha Kane

In opposition – John Rain, Joe Blair, Barry Clayton, Anne Doucleff, Terry Dooley

Adjourned 3:05 p.m.

attachments