TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF PLANNING & ADJUSTMENT
TOWN HALL – MCCOWN MEETING ROOM
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 3:30 PM

Present: Daniel Gerst, Warren Carson, Al Casavant, Luis Ebratt

Absent: John Walters, Wanda May

Staff Present: Tim Daniels, Planning Director
Susan Bell, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Daniel Gerst filled in as acting chairman and called the meeting to order. Mr. Gerst asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Casavant made the motion. Mr. Ebratt so moved. Dr. Carson asked if this board needed such detailed minutes. Planning Director Daniels responded he would check with Attorney Morgan to see. Mr. Gerst suggested just a summary. The minutes were approved.

FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCES

Daniels reported after looking over the ordinances we found there are no limitations on food trucks and anyone could set up a food truck. He is suggesting a time limit of no more than 3 consecutive days a week, unless you get Board of Commissioners approval, so that it doesn't go on indefinitely. The NC Department of Health and Human Services had sent out an email notification that all municipalities needed to be aware of where food trucks were operating so he added that as well.

The permit fee for a food truck to operate is $100 per year. It was suggested to charge to $100 for every three days. Being fair to the merchants was also discussed. Daniels responded that would be a different text amendment but, you as a board can authorize him to look into the cost.

Discussion of food trucks used on private or public property. It was suggested different ordinances were needed. Food trucks are allowed in Central Business on public property in two places. One is along Depot Street and the other is next to the Fire Department. Food trucks can't just be set up anywhere in town. Food trucks are also allowed in General and Transitional Business with property owner permission. Food trucks on private property are beholden to these regulations. The Board doesn't want to see food trucks around forever. It was asked, if someone were to buy a piece of property or lease a piece of property to eventually put in a restaurant, couldn't we allow them to park the food truck there for at least a year. In residential districts, you are allowed to use a food truck for an event, such as a party.

Daniels asked the board to Individually email their thoughts on this and he will rework it and bring it back next month. Columbus is going through this also. He will look and see what they are doing. Slightly different situation over there. A hundred dollars per year doesn't seem fair. We don't really have many food trucks now. Looking to the future when the rails to trails comes, it could change.

The Board decided to table this ordinance until the next meeting.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARKING

Daniels reported we have two new EV chargers up and running. The Police Chief has told him that if we don't have restrictions, anyone can park at the charging stations. This amendment allows only EV cars to park there and allows the police to enforce.

Mr. Casavant made a motion to approve the Electric Vehicle Parking text amendment. Mr. Ebratt so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

LAKE LANIER

Daniels reported the Lake Lanier regulations doesn't regulate the use of buoys. This amendment will allow them to be no more than twenty-five (25) feet out into the lake. If you push them out further, then you are changing the traffic pattern. After meeting with the Lake Lanier Civic Association and the Town manager, it was decided we needed to address buoys. Buoys are to keep boats from coming too close to the shore and to allow a swimming area for residents. This is for personal buoys only. It was asked if the individual needed to get a permit. It was asked about the insurance cost. Would it be less if buoys were not allowed on the lake? Daniels replied he is not the one to ask about the cost of insurance. Upon approval of this text amendment, he will file with Greenville County.

The discussion continued concerning charging permit fees for buoys – it was asked about the cost of the permit fee and about adding a $100 fine if buoy is placed further than twenty-five (25) feet from the shore. It was decided at this time not to charge for buoys.

Mr. Casavant made a motion to approve the text amendment defining buoy and adding to section 7 (c) prohibiting buoys to be placed further than twenty-five (25) feet from the shore. Mr. Ebratt so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Dumpsters-Mr. Casavant asked about screening around dumpsters. Daniels will forward the information on dumpsters to everyone to be able to discuss at the next meeting.

Moving the center line of the road-Mr. Casavant contacted DOT about changing the centerline on Trade Street so that we can change the parallel parking to diagonal parking. This would allow for additional parking. He also talked with Dean Trakas and was told drawings may already be done. Daniels reported parking is something that is being discussed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Gerst adjourned the meeting.

_____

John Walters, Chairman