

CITY OF HAMILTON
INFORMATIONAL MEETING
ON THE PROPOSED CITY OF HAMILTON ZONING ORDINANCE
AND
THE CITY OF HAMILTON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ORDINANCE
JANUARY 12, 2010

A public meeting was held at the Hamilton City Hall Auditorium on Tuesday, January 12th, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Holliday called the meeting to order and welcomed all guests. Mayor Holliday explained the purpose of the meeting and stated the rules of order which included a time limit of one and one-half hours (forty five minutes on each subject).

At this time Mayor Holliday introduced James Tate Chairman of the City of Hamilton Planning Commission. Mr. Tate introduced the members of the Planning Commission which consists of the following people: Chairman, James Tate, Vice-Chairman Dale McCreless, Assistant Secretary, Brenda Burleson, Bill Tyra, David Hightower, Fire Chief, Barron Wiginton, Councilman, McDavid Franks.

*Mr. Tate proceeded to give an overview of the purpose of the Planning Commission which is as follows:

*To guide development in accordance with existing and future needs;

*To protect, promote and improve the public health and general welfare, public safety, convenience, order, appearance, and prosperity.

*To secure safety from fire, panic and other dangers, and to protect scenic areas.

*To facilitate adequate provision of transportation, water, sewage, schools, parks and other public requirements.

*To protect property against blight and depreciation...

*To secure economy in governmental expenditures and conserving the value of lands, buildings and structures.

These regulations are made with reasonable consideration of the character of each area and its peculiar suitability for particular usage and with a view to promoting desirable conditions and stability of neighborhoods.

Mr. Tate then introduced Joel Bartlett, Specialist with the Alabama Forestry Commission. Mr. Bartlett shared information on possible grants administered by the Alabama Forestry Commission. One of the grants "Defensible Space Grant" will take care of seventy-five

percent of citizen's cost to clear property around their residence up to thirty feet. Their goal is to provide public safety. They will also do a "Free Home Assessment" where they will come out and assess your property.

Planning Commission Member, David Hightower explained that businesses would be grandfathered in under the new ordinance. A business that has been abandoned for six months and a re-opens would be subject to the new zoning requirements.

After several comments and questions from the guests regarding the Zoning Ordinance, Mayor Holliday stated the next item for discussion was the Alcohol Ordinance. Police Chief Teena Fields introduced ABC Board representatives Sergeant Donnie Winters, Sergeant Jonathan Winters, Joey May and ABC Board Attorney, Robert Hill.

City Attorney, Scott Hunt gave an overview of the City of Hamilton's proposed Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. Several guests in attendance came forward and asked questions regarding the proposed ordinance. Some of the questions of concern were where clubs would be allowed to operate, could the council change the ordinance at any time, who sets the fees for the license, what kind of protection would citizens have if an establishment causes problems in your neighborhood, and areas where alcohol could be sold. Councilman McDavid Franks explained that the proposed zoning ordinance specified the areas where alcohol could be sold. He also invited everyone to come by City Hall and view the zoning maps.

There being no further questions, the meeting was dismissed.