

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearings were conducted by the Planning and Economic Development Committee on Tuesday, July 2, 2002 at 7:08 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Chairman Brian S. McCarthy presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Scott A. Cote, Vice Chair
Alderman Kevin McAfee
Alderman Timothy B. Nickerson
Alderman Lori Cardin

Also in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large Steven A. Bolton
Alderman-at-Large Frederick Britton
Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Mike Lowe, Planning Board Liaison

Chair McCarthy

Tonight on our agenda we have a public hearing on O-02-61. Alderman Cote would you like to give an overview of that legislation?

Alderman Cote

Approximately twelve weeks ago while sitting on the Planning Board one evening a constituent of mine came before the Planning Board to discuss issues concerning lighting regulations and lighting concerns that she had. She provided me with a document that was prepared by the New Hampshire Planning Commission. I read through that document, and liked what I saw. I made a few edits to it, and sent the document down to Corporation Counsel to prepare legislation for us to consider.

Much of the concern actually comes out of redevelopment issues that are ongoing as well as new development issues that are ongoing where you have large commercial tracts of commercial developments that are lighting their spaces adequately certainly for their protection and security, but causing a tremendous amount of what is being considered as light pollution or spillover that is going onto adjacent areas. There are some projects that are under consideration that have some immediate adjacency to residential areas where that is a particular concern to the quality of life of the people that have to live adjacent to businesses.

The second concern is the ability for us to enjoy the quality of life in regards to being able to see the night sky. The fact that we have a city that is so developed with so much lighting at this point in time that it is actually difficult to enjoy the night sky.

That is essentially the genesis of the ordinance. The ordinance intends to try to provide some very specific provisions as to how outdoor lighting will be installed in new developments, and essentially does not address anything that is existing at the moment. It suggests that certain lighting can't spill over property lines, that

lighting should be concentrated in sites. I do have potentially three amendments that I will offer tonight to help clarify a few things.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

O-02-61

AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO REGULATE GLARE AND OTHER
ADVERSE IMPACTS OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR:

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Joe Dechane, 37 Woodford Road

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Deric Walcot, 2A Sixth Street

-
John Stansfield, 33 Roy Street

-
Barbara Pressly, 11 Orchard Avenue

-
Dan Walton, 25 Musket Drive

Pete Johnson, 19 Marina Drive

John Cox, 19 Blackstone Drive

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Bradley Whitney, 38 Fifield Street

Dot Nice, 8 Maywood Drive

-
TESTIMONY IN FAVOR

-
Alice Walton, 25 Musket Drive, Nashua

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

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The public hearing on O-02-61 was declared closed at 7:33 p.m.

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O-02-65

AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT GROUND AND SURFACE WATER
BOTTLING PLANTS IN ALL DISTRICTS

Chair McCarthy

Our zoning ordinances are currently silent on the usage of water bottling facilities. Given the fact that we do not have sufficient capacity in our groundwater system at this point to supply the needs of the city without taking water out of the Merrimack allowing more water to be captured from either our ground water supply or subsurface aquifers and sent outside of the watershed that is within the city, I believe it is not in the best interest of our long-term water supply and development needs.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR

- Barbara Pressly, 11 Orchard Avenue.

- TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

- Gerald Prunier, Esq., Trafalgar Square

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR

- TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

- The Public Hearing on O-02-65 was declared closed at 7:40 p.m.

Alderman Scott A. Cote
Committee Clerk