

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting
November 19, 2007

Members: Kathy Hummel, Chair
Tim Gorbach
Ken Barnhart

Mrs. Hummel called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Considered

Temp. Ord. B-146

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-146

An ordinance amending Appendix C of Title 5 of the General Development Code, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Hummel asked Mr. Arrington if the Law Department checked to verify this legislation did not need to be referred to the Planning Commission. Mr. Arrington confirmed it did not because it is solely an administrative issue. He added that he distributed a substitute exhibit to Council which corrects typos that were on the original exhibit.

Mr. Guerra stated this Ordinance replaces the 1992 fee schedule. When the Code was updated in 1995, they did not have time to look into fees so they kept them at the old rates. In determining the fee schedule for B-146, they surveyed other communities to see what their fees were: Stow, Hudson, Twinsburg, Green, Fairlawn, Bath Twp., Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights and Akron. They settled on the average of what those cities charged and believe these fees meet the needs of the new Code. Mr. Guerra confirmed that his department could handle the workload with the new fees.

Mrs. Klinger questioned the high rate for a residential variance request. Mr. Guerra stated that \$40, which was the old rate, was not enough. They took the average of what the other communities charged. For example, Twinsburg - \$350; Green - \$200; Hudson - \$250. Commercial was placed at \$175; and residents at \$125. They did not get Akron's. Fairlawn and Barberton charge \$50. Mrs. Klinger said she would hate for someone not to do improvements to their property for the sole reason that they cannot pay that high of a fee. Mr. Guerra stated they would work with those residents. Mrs. Hummel asked if Mrs. Klinger had an amount in mind. Mrs. Klinger felt that \$75 sounded better. Mrs. Hummel agreed that \$75 would be a good compromise and asked Mr. Guerra if he would be comfortable with that. He stated he would.

The Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-146 for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.