

PLANNING, ZONING & BUILDING COMMISSION

CITY HALL

May 29,

19

The City of Cortland Planning, Zoning & Building Commission met on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the City Administration Building, 400 N. High Street, Cortland, Ohio. In attendance were the following board members: Chairman Curt Moll, Don Bell, Donald Fatobene and Jim Bradley. Also present were Law Director Patrick Wilson, Service Director Donald Wittman and the following individual:

William Good 153 Dennis Dr. Cortland

Curt Moll called in session, the special meeting at 6:00 of the City of Cortland Planning, Zoning & Building Commission. Roll call.

Roll Call: Jim Bradley, here; Sally Lane, absent; Curt Moll, here; Don Bell, here; Donald Fatobene, absent (arrived after roll call).

A motion to approve **Commission Minutes from the May 13, 2019** regular meeting was made by **Don Bell** and seconded by **Jim Bradley**. **Roll Call: Donald Fatobene, absent; Sally Lane, absent; Jim Bradley, yes; Curt Moll, yes; Don Bell, yes. MOTION APPROVED.**

Curt Moll: The only thing that we have on the agenda is **13-19 Home Occupation – 153 Dennis Drive** – Assembly of Ithaca model 37 shotguns.

A motion was made by **Don Bell** and seconded by **Jim Bradley**.

Curt Moll: Could you come to the podium and speak into the microphone; give your name, address and what you're going to do.

William Good: My name is William Good, I've been with the Ithaca Gun Company for approximately six years, building at my home. My wish is to build here in Cortland at my new home if I can get everyone's approval on that. There is no test firing or anything, of course; I'm in town. I don't work with any live ammunition. I assemble things at my home and from there I want to take them out to the shooting range out by the lake. Do my test firing there and bring them back to my house, do the final inspection, pack them and take them back to Ithaca Gun Company for distribution. I will not have any customers at my home. I will not have any employees, I'm just by myself. The Ithaca Gun Company has been around since 1883, they are a very well-known company. Annie Oakley used to shoot Ithaca shotguns, that's a big name.

Jim Bradley: They are upper Sandusky, they are an Ohio company now.

William Good: Yes.

Jim Bradley: So, you are receiving parts and pieces or you are going there and receiving parts and pieces.

William Good: Yes.

Jim Bradley: So as a pump shotgun, it's really just receiver, barrel, maybe choke tubes? Or is it pins, springs and full assembly?

William Good: Pins, springs, everything. I go to the factory in upper Sandusky and let's say they have parts for 25 guns; 25 of everything, down to the last tiny spring or screw. I inspect everything on site and make sure things are to spec and to print. I make sure there is no discoloration, no scratching, no rust, I have the correct quantity of things. Load

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them up in a U-Haul trailer and bring them back to my home for full assembly. From the breech block, I have to attach the barrels, build the barrels, put the choke tubes in, the finest detailed work. All the gauges, all the parts, it's a very meticulously built gun. A lot of hand fitting is involved; they are a higher priced shotgun.

Curt Moll: No equipment is involved?

William Good: There is no equipment involved. I do not do any machining, no gluing. I go and pick up all of the machined parts, everything is machined, glued, individually packaged; a bag of screws, a bag of choke tubes. I even do the stock sets; whether it's single A, AA, AAA wood. I brought a copy of my current FFL; Federal Firearms License, if anyone would like to take a look at that.

Don Wittman: I'll keep that for the record.

Patrick Wilson: We were told that you had one so thank you for bringing a copy of it.

William Good: You're welcome. I also brought a few catalogs.

Curt Moll: Out of curiosity, are there a lot of employees like you that work for Ithaca?

William Good: No, I'm the only one. The reason I'm doing what I'm doing is due to a lot of hard work. It's my passion. Your passion might be golf, it's just my greatest of passions. The owner actually saw that it was my calling to be there. Things were not good at the company when I arrived; as far as the fitting of parts and the time it took to build each gun. It might take 4 to 5 hours to build each gun, 1 guy doing all of the assembly himself. I learned from a man with 40 years of machining experience, John. I learned what to do with the guns very well. Between he and I, we changed a few numbers on some of the springs and lengths on certain parts and pieces to make them fit better and be more durable. John found a job closer to home, he was a machinist, he was not an assembly supervisor. They wanted to know; what are we doing wrong? Why is it taking so long to build each gun? The patents, blueprints, clear from Ithaca, New York – the company has almost gone out of business several times and it's changed hands. It's currently owned by Dave Dlubak in upper Sandusky. After John quit, I was building 2 to 3 guns per his 1, that put me at assembly supervisor. I shut the room down for a week and got rid of any junk parts, unorganized parts, with the help of everybody. We organized everything and I broke it down into an assembly line; each guy or girl does their own part of the gun. That's what we had to do to show them that we are going to produce. We more than tripled the production that way. I met my wife and was going to have to move to Hocking County. Due to her divorce agreement, she wasn't allowed to move out of Hocking County. I was basically going back to McDonalds and work because I fell in love with her and was willing to sacrifice my career. The owner came to me and asked me to build guns off site. He said that I had proven myself, I'm really good at what I do, and I'll never forget that.

Don Wittman: The only question I have is; once you have it assembled and you go out and test fire them, do you have a gun safe or other security?

William Good: A gun safe is not required by the ATF just well locked doors.

Jim Bradley: Do you have to notify our Police Chief or does that go through when the license transfers?

William Good: I believe that would just go through the ATF. After I would get the Council's approval, I would contact the ATF and they would contact you guys to confirm the approval. I have already had a meeting with them in my new home. They were satisfied with everything and updated me on some of the paperwork and the procedure.

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Patrick Wilson: The ATF came out to your house, did an inspection and approved everything, just waiting on this board's approval?

William Good: Yes, waiting on this board's approval, then I can get back to work. I'm ready to get back to work.

Don Wittman: I provided the board with a letter of someone who does gunsmithing. They had a federal firearms license as well as conceal and carry classroom instructor and lived here in town. I was able to give them a letter because there wasn't assembly going on at the residence. With the ATF coming out and actually inspecting the residence and acknowledging that this is going to be assembly on the property, gives rise to where this is definitely a home occupation. I felt it best to bring it in front of the board.

Curt Moll: Yes, it was the right thing to do.

William Good: I'd like to meet with the police chief when possible and let them know what I'll be doing and exactly where I do live. Just in case of an emergency or if I'm out of town. I won't have any guns if I plan on being out of town, of course. Just to show you how close I am to the police station; the brown building out back, I can see that from the other side of the creek. They can literally run right out back.

Don Bell: After you complete your assembly and test fire, you bring the guns back with you correct?

William Good: Yes.

Don Bell: Then how long before you disperse those back to the manufacturer?

William Good: As long as it takes me to clean the barrels after the test firing.

Don Bell: We're not talking weeks?

William Good: No, no, a couple of days. I just clean the barrels, do a final inspection to make sure that I didn't bump it up against something. Make sure that nothing came loose in the test firing process, which never happens.

Curt Moll: You build 25 then you test fire 25.

William Good: That's the way I previously did it, that's my plan. Previously I could test fire on my own property. I had 8 acres in Hocking County and I was outside of the city limits. I was able to literally step out my side door, test fire, bring 5 guns back in, oil them, clean the barrels, do the final inspection sheet, and pack them in the shipping box with the Styrofoam.

Curt Moll: Good, any more questions?

William Good: I will need my catalogs back at some point. Those are the only ones I have. I collect them, of course and I only have a few of each.

Curt Moll: Patrick, any questions?

Patrick Wilson: I have none. I would like to commend Don on the record for bringing this before the board instead of handling it with a letter as it was done before.

Curt Moll: Roll call please.

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**Roll Call: Jim Bradley, yes; Curt Moll, yes; Don Bell, yes; Donald Fatobene, yes.
MOTION APPROVED.**

Curt Moll: We are approved on that, now I need a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment moved for by **Don Bell** and seconded by **Jim Bradley**.

**Roll Call: Curt Moll, yes; Don Bell, yes; Donald Fatobene, yes; Jim Bradley, yes.
MOTION APPROVED.**

Meeting Adjourned: 6:15 pm

Chairman

Date

Secretary