

PLANNING, ZONING & BUILDING COMMISSION

CITY HALL

July 9

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The City of Cortland Planning, Zoning & Building Commission met on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 6:45 P. M. at the City Administration Building, 400 N. High Street, Cortland, Ohio. In attendance were the following board members: Chairman Curt Moll, Vice Chairman Sally Lane, Don Bell, and Donald Fatobene, and Jim Bradley. Also present were Mayor Jim Woofter, Law Director Patrick Wilson, Service Director Don Wittman and the following individuals:

Richard Vucco	111 Heather Ln.	Cortland
Lucille Sayers	117 Argali	Cortland
Debra Parsons	125 Argali	Cortland
Vincent Prindle		Cortland
Son (Prindle)	Sign in sheet unreadable	

Curt Moll: I'm not going to rule on anything if they don't show

Patrick Wilson: Right, we can move it to next meeting.

Curt Moll: Do you know of anyone that will be coming?

Patrick Wilson: The application was signed by the architect.

Curt Moll: We have to reschedule.

Vincent Prindle: Did you take a look at that dust problem up there on Wakefield?

Mayor Woofter: I did, and then it rained in the afternoon so it took care of itself that particular day.

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: (Do not know which woman is which. Names were taken from the sign in sheet) That day. Today was terrible. Today you couldn't even sit outside.

Vincent Prindle: I'm glad you were aware of it. It's a construction site but they could have cleaned up the road.

Mayor Woofter: I'm not sure that Planning and Zoning is where you want to come for that.

Vincent Prindle: Oh no, I'm here for other reasons, the sign issue.

Mayor Woofter: And are you here for other reasons?

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: We're here for the sign.

Mayor Woofter: Unless somebody comes from their side to present, we'll probably end up having to table that.

Vincent Prindle: The dust issue?

Mayor Woofter: No, the sign issue. We have a public hearing at 6:45..., 8 minutes ago.

Curt Moll: And they were supposed to explain why they wanted the variance and what it was going to entail and how they were going to operate the sign and they aren't here. I don't see how we can vote on it. I have information about the illuminated sign here but it doesn't really tell me what the particulars are.

Patrick Wilson: We have to have a public meeting first.

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(inaudible talking)

Curt Moll: They were aware. Who are “they”?

Patrick Wilson: It’s their agent, the construction company that put the school up. They submitted the application on behalf of the school district, which is typical. A lot of businesses don’t submit their sign variances, most of the time the sign company would do it.

Curt Moll: But in this case; (inaudible) Someone from Ellet Sign.

Patrick Wilson: My guess is miscommunication between ... the architect has been here for the construction meeting.

Vincent Prindle: Curt, will there be any discussion at all?

Curt Moll: There has to be a public hearing. We can’t issue a variance without a public hearing.

Patrick Wilson: No action will be taken to further their request. Their request is dead in the water. If they come back to us, we put it on the agenda for the August meeting. Then we have a public hearing, same thing, 6:45 probably.

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: You won’t hear any of our concerns tonight?

Patrick Wilson: Not tonight, no, it will be tabled so we won’t hear from anybody. By the same token, no action will be taken one way or the other.

Vincent Prindle: No opinions, concerns on record?

Patrick Wilson: Correct, that will be in August if they want us to reschedule.

Lucille Sayers/Debra Parsons: I won’t be here in August. Is it right around the same time in August?

Curt Moll: It will be the second Monday.

Patrick Wilson: This board meets the second Monday of every month.

Sally Lane: The 13th.

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: I’ll be in Texas. I have a wedding.

Vincent Prindle: We wasted our time coming here then?

Patrick Wilson: We know there is opposition now.

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: We have questions.

Vincent Prindle: Is there a mock-up of their sign? Where it would be placed? Is it physically displayed so we can see the difference between the two?

A drawing of the sign is passed around.

Vincent Prindle: Is there a physical mock-up?

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Don Fatobene: Here, pass this around. Not for us, this is just what the architect provided.

Vincent Prindle: Is there something we can look at? Compared to what the zoning allows and ...It looks beautiful but, is it going to be lighted...

Debra Parsons/Lucille Sayers: It's so large in a residential neighborhood with neon lights. Is it going to shine in my bedroom window? The school is in my backyard.

Lucille Sayers /Debra Parsons: We're on Argali, that's our backyards.

Mayor Woofter: I just talked to Bob Wilson, he's out of town. There will not be a public hearing today. So we're going to have to table that. I talked to him about the dust. He's going to talk to the contractor tomorrow. They are supposed to be wetting that down.

Vincent Prindle: As you know, they have not. It has been intolerable, it's been awful.

Mayor Woofter: It's not a city thing. I've talked to him and he is going to talk to the contractor tomorrow.

Lucille Sayers /Debra Parsons: You can see on the condos, duplexes, across the street, you can see on their siding the layer of dust. Go look at my car, it's covered in dust.

Patrick Wilson: We are ready to start tonight's meeting.

Debra Parsons/ Lucille Sayers: I won't be here in August, I'll be in Texas.

Mayor Woofter: Thank you all for coming. The sign issue will be scheduled for next August. Thank you all.

Curt Moll: It's 7:00 and I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the City of Cortland Planning, Zoning & Building Commission on July 9, 2018. I'd like to have a roll call please.

Roll Call: Jim Bradley, here; Sally Lane, here; Curt Moll, here; Don Bell, here; Donald Fatobene, here.

Curt Moll: The first item on the agenda, I need a motion to **approve the Commission Minutes for June 11, 2018– Regular Meeting.**

Don Fatobene motioned and **Don Bell** seconded.

Curt Moll: Any corrections on the minutes? Roll call please.

Donald Fatobene, yes; Sally Lane, yes; Jim Bradley, abstain; Curt Moll, yes; Don Bell, yes. MOTION APPROVED.

Curt Moll: The first item of new business is **31-18 Variance Request** – for which the public hearing could not be held tonight, so we are going to table that. I need a motion...

Vincent Prindle: Can I interrupt? Can the minutes reflect that I request a mock-up of the size of the sign, physically? What it would look like on the school grounds so people can see as we go up Wakefield. What it would look like as opposed to... No one knows what it's going to look like.

Curt Moll: It will go in the minutes, your comments are all in the minutes.

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Mayor Woofter: Vince, I think that you should go to Bob Wilson. You need to go to Bob Wilson and make the request to him.

Vincent Prindle: Jim, I appreciate that comment but, do you all remember or know about the fiber optic cables that went through some of the properties on Wakefield, were you aware of Mr. Wilson's request?

No. (2 people answered, unsure of whom).

Vincent Prindle: The letter asked for permission to bore under some of the properties to connect the two schools, fiber optics for communication. I don't know verbatim what the letter said but, -our intent is to leave your property as good as it was when we put the fiber optics together. Well, it was a terrible, terrible job. They basically threw grass seed on top of clay and expected it to grow. I called Mr. Wilson and told him how poorly they treated my property and he said – remind me, and they are supposed to come back – and remedy that problem. They never did. Anyone that has done yard work knows you put topsoil and cover it with a quarter to a half inch of topsoil and the grass will thrive. Well, it was an abortion and nothing was ever followed up, in spite of my phone calls to Mr. Wilson and I am offended by that.

Curt Moll: I would suggest that you go to a school board meeting.

Vincent Prindle: Just so that you Ladies and Gentlemen are aware.

Mayor Woofter: Curt nailed it right on the head;

Vincent Prindle: I called him personally, on his cell phone.

Mayor Woofter: The school board has the power over that. The city cannot demand that the school make a mock-up of a sign, we don't have an ordinance that says you have to build mock-ups.

Curt Moll: They have two variances, one for size and one for electronics.

Vincent Prindle: It would sure help their cause. A picture's worth a thousand words, well what's a physical mock-up...

Mayor Woofter: You can get a set of these drawings of the sign if you want. It shows where they are, the depth, the construction of it. If you want to wait until after the meeting... In fact here, take these right here and this shows you everything that they are requesting. (He gives Vincent a copy of the sign drawings)

Curt Moll: Can we have a motion to table it?

Don Bell motioned and **Jim Bradley** seconded.

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

Curt Moll: As far as the mock-up goes, we can't request that because we don't have anything in our ordinance that says that we could request that.

Vincent Prindle: Okay. I understand. It would be a darned good thing for them to say; here it is. So, people like myself could understand what they are requesting. Good night all, Thank you.

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Curt Moll: The next item on the agenda, **32-18 Replat** – A Replat of Lots 651A & 652A Cortland Estates No.1 Vol. 30, Page 77, can I have a motion, please.

Don Bell motioned and **Don Fatobebe** seconded.

Curt Moll: Sir, would you like to come up here and talk to us about what you are doing?

Richard Vucco 111 Heather Ln., I have an opportunity to purchase 10 feet off of my neighbors since they are selling and moving. At least I think they are, they keep saying they are. To buy 10 feet of their property, that lot is on Fowler St., my lot is on Heather. Their backyard abuts my side yard. Years ago I wanted to put a garage up, but I knew that I didn't want to fight for a variance or anything so I let it go. I didn't have the 10 feet available. My property line is 12 feet from the edge of the house, so I've been fine with a 2 foot driveway. I have an opportunity to get the 10 feet. I don't plan on doing anything at this point in time. I just figure that it'd be a good time to take it and use it as a selling point whenever we do sell. Nothing's going to change. Actually, this corner is a mess, it has been a mess for a long time and I want to clean it up too.

Curt Moll: The 10 feet is the dotted line to the solid line. It does make the lot line straight. Any questions? Can I have a roll call please.

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

Richard Vucco- Thank you, that's it? Where do I get my paperwork?

Don Wittman: That will be forwarded to Council, it will be on the next Council meeting and you don't have to come back for that.

Richard Vucco- And then what, do they mail me a copy?

Curt Moll: It will be signed and you will have to record it.

Patrick Wilson: You will do the recording, the Recorders Office will take it once the city approves it.

Richard Vucco- Okay.

Mayor Woofter: At our next council meeting, which will be Monday of next week, it will be on our agenda and council will vote to approve or disapprove. I'm sure they will approve. Usually when Planning and Zoning submits something to us, it's extremely rare, in my history, I've never seen it voted down. So, Tuesday of next week.

Richard Vucco- I come here next Tuesday. Thank you.

Mayor Woofter: Yes, Thank you, Mr. Vucco.

Curt Moll: The next item is **33-18 Ground Mounted Sign – 640 Wakefield Dr.** – Lakeview Schools- it requires a variance, which has been tabled so, I think we need to table this one as well.

Don Fatobene motioned and **Don Bell** seconded.

Curt Moll: Roll call please.

Jim Bradley, yes; Sally Lane, yes; Don Bell, yes; Don Fatobene, yes. Curt Moll, yes. MOTION APPROVED.

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Mayor Woofter: Bob (Wilson) indicated they would be here next meeting.

Curt Moll: Good, that's a good thing. I've got one more thing before we adjourn. Jim Bradley has a proposal. You have an open floor to enlighten us.

Jim Bradley: Thank you. Let's see what you think. (passes out packets) I came up with this idea doing some research on the internet; some other communities have done it. I wanted to take on a project that would grow our community pride and give back to our veterans and first responders. I came up with this "Super hero parking project". I'm very much open to discussion, names can be changed, it could say – local hero, or our hero, or something like that. It's very straight forward, as you can see, I've attached some pictures of the signage that other communities have created. We could have it say veterans, active duty, and reservists, police, fire, EMT, a lot of different ways we can go with this. The initial hope was that, we could put a couple of these signs up, possibly here at City Hall, maybe a couple of parks, possibly the fire station something like that. I thought that it would be positive press for us. I know the sense of pride a veteran pulling in would probably have, or somebody working out at YARS, or a fireman. We are not taking away a spot because these people are already using these spots. These veterans, police and fire are already using these areas, so it's pretty straight forward. The second half of my plan would be to go out to local businesses and get them to sponsor one of these signs, at their location. They would have to purchase the sign, through our vendor, so everything looks exactly the same, and have it installed or maybe we can do the install. It will all be part of the sponsorship price, and it will help them, and they can do whatever they like as far as marketing it or getting their own press for it. That would be the second phase of it, I would at least like to talk about the first phase and see what you think. I feel like it would be very,very positive for us.

Curt Moll: I like the idea. It would require some money up front to buy some signs.

Mayor Woofter: This is something our new sign guy in Cortland may do. He's been extremely helpful with different events in and around Cortland.

Curt Moll: He did the sign for the Historical Society at the Opera House. I would suggest that you make a proposal/request, to some local organizations to fund this.

Jim Bradley: If I knew this would be supported, these are the spots we could put it to start, I guarantee I can get the support to fund the signage.

Mayor Woofter: I don't see any issue that we couldn't put one of these signs at City Hall. I don't see that being a problem. That would take care of both, City Hall and the police department. I think that you could talk to the (fire) chief, I don't think that he would be opposed to having something there. That to get it started, off the ground. There is nothing to installing these, put up a post. I would say something like this from him would be in the \$30 to \$40 range.

Jim Bradley: Sure, I could easily get that to be funded. The reason that I want to roll it out to businesses is because I actually want people to see them. More people are going to pull into Sparkle than City Hall. I want people to see it around our town in different spots, visitors can see it and say "this is a great idea". That's what Florida did, Coco Beach and different parts of Florida that are in the packet. They are hoping it takes off everywhere. I think it's great, there's a huge sense of pride there. One of my best friends is a major in the Air Force and I guarantee that Brian would love to pull into a spot for him.

Curt Moll: We could, maybe, put one by the restrooms at the park. Don, do you see any issues with this?

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Don Wittman: No, as far as parking on private property; that would be up to the businesses. I don't think that it's anything that we are going to want to legislate or require businesses to install.

Curt Moll: No, we are thinking more in terms of sponsorship.

Don Wittman: I'm aware of one in Boardman at BJ's Brew House, they have one adjacent to the handicap spaces; it's a wounded warrior parking space.

Don Bell: That would be my next question. Where is it going to be in relationship to the handicap spots?

Curt Moll: Here, I would suggest not to put it over there, (entrance nearest police station) and put it over here.

Mayor Woofter: Because we have handicap parking over there. There is plenty of parking over here.

Patrick Wilson: Jim, are looking for this board to make a recommendation to City Council to get behind this?

Jim Bradley: Yes, I would like to.

Patrick Wilson: Maybe put it on the agenda for this board's next meeting in the form of a proposal?

Mayor Woofter: Do we need council's endorsement to put a sign here?

Patrick Wilson: I don't know that it's necessary.

Curt Moll: I think that it's more for publicity than anything.

Patrick Wilson: That was my thought. You have to get it out to the public somehow. What better way to do that than to put it on the agendas of both public bodies. It will get discussed, the Tribune will pick it up at the council meeting, and you put your city signs up, and then Jim has a platform to go private.

Curt Moll: I could write a letter to city council with this stuff included and say we discussed this and recommend them to consider this project.

Jim Bradley: Ok.

Mayor Woofter: Cortland News will sponsor three of your signs.

Jim Bradley: Great, thank you.

Mayor Woofter: (to Curt) You can write that in the letter – that Cortland News is sponsoring the cost of three of the signs.

Curt Moll: (to Mayor Woofter) You can say that at the council meeting. You do have to get Mark on board, as far as the design goes.

Mayor Woofter: Good idea Jim.

Jim Bradley: Thank you.

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Curt Moll: I think that it's a great idea.

Does anyone have anything to the good of the order? Can I have a motion to adjourn?

Don Fatobene motioned and **Don Bell** seconded.

Roll Call: Jim Bradley, yes; Sally Lane, yes; Don Bell, yes; Donald Fatobene, yes; Curt Moll, yes; MOTION PASSED.

Meeting Adjourned - 7:20 p.m.

Chairman

Date

Secretary