




**CITY OF JONESVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA
AUGUST 14, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
CITY HALL**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / MOMENT OF SILENCE**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. OATH OF OFFICE AND WELCOME**
 - A. Jim Taipalus
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. June 12, 2019 Meeting
- 6. PUBLIC HEARING AND SUBSEQUENT ACTION**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Potential Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Projection into Yards and Electronic Signs
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - A. Project Updates
- 9. ADJOURNMENT - Next meeting Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm**

[Discussion/Action Item]



To: Jonesville Planning Commission
From: Jeffrey M. Gray, City Manager 
Date: August 9, 2019
Re: Manager Report and Recommendations – August 14, 2019 Planning Commission Meeting

3. A. Oath of Office and Welcome

Staff will administer the Oath of Office to our newest member, Jim Taipalus, who was appointed in April to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission.

**6. A. Potential Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Projections into Yards
and Electronic Signs**

[Discussion/Action]

The Ordinance Subcommittee met on August 6th to discuss a couple of potential amendments to the Ordinance. The first would address some recent variance requests where applicants wanted to place a roof over an open front porch. The ordinance treats a deck with a roof as a part of the main building, subject to the same setbacks. Where an existing home, is built at the setback, there is no opportunity to add a covered porch without a variance. The Zoning Board of Appeals has granted these requests where the porch is open on the sides with only a railing for enclosure. The attached language has been recommended by Ordinance Subcommittee to make this practice the rule, so that these porches could be built without need for a variance.

The second ordinance amendment would adjust sign regulations to allow for electronic message signs. These are sign boards that display images and text on electronic boards, often using LED technology. The advantage of these signs is that the message can change, increasing the advertising that can take place in a fixed space. Currently, these signs are not permitted in the City under the Zoning Ordinance.

There has been some recent interest in these signs, prompting a review of the Ordinance. In considering proposed language, the primary regulatory concerns have come around assuring that such signs would not be a distraction to drivers and that the brightness of such signs would not be a nuisance on the street or to neighboring properties.

Recommended ordinance language is attached. Also attached is a document from the International Sign Association regarding sign brightness. Several sample ordinances are also attached for reference. Staff and the Ordinance Subcommittee will be prepared to explain the recommendations regarding maintaining fixed displays, the duration of displays, and brightness. We will share some video simulations to help provide additional context.

Following discussion, the Planning Commission has several options. The proposed language (as presented or amended through discussion) may be scheduled for a public hearing at the September 11, 2019 regular meeting. If the Planning Commission has questions or would like to see additional research, the topic can be placed on a future agenda for additional discussion prior to scheduling a public hearing. Or the Planning Commission can refer the matter back to the Ordinance Subcommittee if it feels the matter should be reviewed again. *Please refer to the attached draft ordinance language, document from the International Sign Association, and various sample ordinances.*

7. A. Project Updates

This section of the agenda is reserved for an update on current and pending projects in the City.