

The Town of Laurel  
Public Hearing Minutes  
September 19, 2022

A Mayor & Council Public Hearing was held in the Mayor & Council Chambers at the Laurel Town Hall, on Monday, September 19, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were in attendance Mayor John Shwed, President of Council Calio, Council Members Robin Fisher-Cornish via ZOOM, Cheryl Martin via ZOOM, Jonathan Kellam, and Donald Holden. Also, in attendance were Director of Code Enforcement Ken West, Chief Dan Wright, Alderman Taylor Oliphant, Finance Manager Mary Introcaso, Town Manager Jamie Smith. It was noted that Councilman Randy Lee, Public Works Director James Foskey, and Recording Secretary Alexis Oliphant were absent.

Mayor Shwed stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear the presentation of the proposed Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining Permitted Uses. Town Manager Smith stated the Planning & Zoning Committee are recommending Mayor & Council to adopt the proposed zoning amendment to allow all Special Permitted Uses to be listed as Permitted Uses for R-1, R-2, & R-3 Zoning. A document was handed out to Mayor & Council for review that included all the Permitted Uses and all the Special Permitted Uses pertaining R-1, R-2, & R-3 zoning. A discussion was held on home occupation, with it being classified as any occupation, profession, enterprise or activity conducted solely by one or more members of a family on the premises, which is incidental and secondary to the use of the premises for dwelling, provided that no commodity is stored or sold, except such as it is made on the premises and there shall be no group instruction, assembly or activity and no outside storage or display material on the premises. A home occupation shall not be interpreted to include nursing homes, convalescent homes, rest homes, restaurants, tearooms, tourist homes, or similar establishments. The special permitted uses procedures consist of a fee of \$500.00, a scheduling of a public hearing with Planning & Zoning, certified notices mailed to properties within 200 feet of the proposed property, and legal notice fees. Mayor Shwed inquired if Mayor & Council or the public had any questions pertaining the proposed zoning amendment.

Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish inquired how many people can reside in a private home. Director of Code Enforcement West stated per town code 150 square foot for every two persons and an additional 50 square foot for every one person.

Mr. Mark Sikora, resident of East Fourth Street, raised the attention of house stacking. Director of Code Enforcement West stated by Delaware law the town is not allowed to knock on the doors of homes inquiring if they're related to one another in the same dwelling.

With there being no further questions or comments, Mayor Shwed closed the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Public Hearing Adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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Mayor

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President of Council

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Town Manager

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Recording Secretary