

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING - CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 5th, 1982
6:30 P.M.

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2 The meeting was called to order by President of the Council, Joe Martinez.
3 All Council Members were present with the exception of Councilmen Martin, Hinton,
4 and Caruso. Mayor Hart was absent.
5

6 President Martinez stated the purpose of the meeting was to hold a public
7 hearing to receive input from the public on Item No. 81-12-412, a proposed sign
8 ordinance.
9

10 Councilman Hinton joined the meeting at 6:40 P.M.
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12 Councilwoman Wood made opening comments after which President Martinez
13 opened the floor to members of the public.
14

15 Mr. Larry Englande, Chairman of the Sign Ordinance Committee, gave a brief
16 history of the Sign Ordinance Committee and background information on how the
17 Sign Ordinance Committee wrote the proposed ordinance. Mr. Englande urged the
18 Council to adopt a good, solid sign ordinance for the City of Slidell.
19

20 Councilman Caruso joined the meeting at 6:45 P.M.
21

22 Mr. Jimmy Byrne, Chairman of the Slidell Planning Commission, stated the
23 Planning Commission had recommended thirty-five amendments to the proposed sign
24 ordinance. He stated with the exception of the amendment regarding grandfathering,
25 the amendments were mostly technical in nature or recommended in order to bring
26 the ordinance into legal conformance. Mr. Byrne stressed the need for a strong
27 enforcement section and stated additional personnel for the Permit Department would
28 be recommended in order to enforce the new sign ordinance.
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30 Ms. Peggy Coleman, President of the Greater Slidell Area Chamber of
31 Commerce, pointed out several ill-affects the proposed sign ordinance would have
32 on the community if adopted without including the Chamber of Commerce's recommendations.
33 She stated the Chamber did not agree with the Planning Commission's recommendations
34 and she recommended the Council not adopt the proposed ordinance if the Chamber's
35 recommendations were not adopted. Ms. Coleman suggested the present sign ordinance
36 be modified to meet the needs of the City rather than a new ordinance adopted.
37

38 Mr. Bill Baker, Chairman of the Political Action Committee of the Chamber
39 of Commerce, reviewed several major areas of concern the Chamber had with the
40 proposed sign ordinance and explained why the Chamber felt said recommendations
41 should be adopted.
42

43 Mr. Steve Buser, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, addressed the question
44 of enforcement of the present and proposed sign ordinance.
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46 Mr. Beau Toll, owner of Taylor Rental, suggested the Council study the
47 proposed ordinance and make certain it was for the good of the community and that
48 it was a good piece of legislation.
49

50 Mrs. Niki McDonald, 3841 Berkley, spoke in favor of the proposed sign
51 ordinance, stating the beauty of the city would have an affect on the economy of
52 the City in some ways.
53

54 Mr. Tim O'Neil, owner of The Movies, addressed the Council regarding
55 regulations for Theatre Signs. Mr. O'Neil stated his signs were vital to his
56 business and if his reader board was prohibited his visibility would be reduced
57 to nothing due to the location of his business.
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59 Mr. Brian Cuyler, representing Naegle Outdoor Advertising, stated he had
60 two specific problems with the proposed ordinance regarding the placement of off-
61 premises signs.
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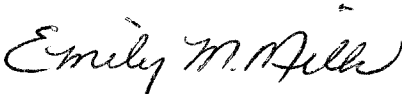
63 Mr. Dave Buck, 224 Lake Village Blvd., stated he felt the citizens of
64 Slidell should not be restricted as much as the sign ordinance proposed and that
65 citizens should be allowed to advertise their products in their own way.
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68

Mr. Paul Andres, a member of the Sign Ordinance Committee, stated he felt the present sign ordinance was too vague and general and it was unenforceable. He stated the proposed sign ordinance would be more definitive and easier to enforce. He stated sign proliferation would decrease visibility and that aesthetics was a good basic reason for adopting a sign ordinance as it played an important part in maintaining the character of the city.

As no one else indicated a desire to be heard, the public hearing was closed on Item No. 81-12-412, the proposed sign ordinance, and Councilwoman Gallinghouse Hoppe, seconded by Councilwoman Wood, moved to table the proposed ordinance until the January 12th, 1982 meeting of the Council.

ROLL CALL 8 Yeas 0 Nays 1 Absent CARRIED

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.


Emily M. Mills
Clerk of the Council


Joe Martinez
Councilman-at-Large
President of the Council