

**Planning Commission  
Minutes  
May 21, 2012**

John Merrill	Present
Eron Moore	Present
Keith Roche	Present
Bob Strickland	Present
Charlie Roberts	Present

Mr. Merrill called the meeting to order.

Mr. Merrill determined that a quorum was present.

Mr. Merrill called for approval of prior minutes. Mr. Moore made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2012 meeting as presented. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. The motion carried. 4-0

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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| <b>1. SU-12-02<br/>Marvin Hewitt Enterprises<br/>350 Equipment Court<br/>7/012/115</b> | <b>Allowance of an Electronic<br/>Message Center and change<br/>in condition of height from<br/>30' to 45' on previously<br/>approved billboard</b> |
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Mr. Merrill asked for a report from the Planning Department. Mr. Ferguson gave the report stating that the applicant had received approval of the two requested billboards from the City Council on January 9, 2012. On May 7, 2012 the Council amended the sign ordinance to allow an increase in height of 45' and Electronic Message Centers to be located on billboards, but also increased the minimum separation requirement between billboards to 1000'. Mr. Ferguson stated that due to the prior approval of the locations of the billboards, the Planning Department recommends approval.

Mr. Roberts asked Mr. Ferguson if the additional height allowed would have an effect on the required fall zone in relation to the location of the billboards since that is not reflected on the submitted plans. Mr. Ferguson stated that the required fall zone would have to be shown on the submitted plans prior to the issuance of a sign permit.

Mr. Merrill asked if the applicant was present. Mr. Shawn Britton of Mahaffey Pickens Tucker gave the presentation on behalf of the applicant requesting that the Planning Commission approve the application as submitted. Mr. Moore asked the applicant why they wanted to increase to 45'. The applicant stated it was due to greater visibility. Mr. Strickland asked the applicant why he thought they should be allowed to have the

additional height and an EMC but not adhere to the new requirement of 1000' separation. The applicant stated that the location and number of billboards would not change from the previous approval and that the request is for a change in height and type of billboard allowed. Mr. Roche asked the applicant how many messages would be displayed on the EMC. Mr. Marvin Sibly, a representative of the applicant, stated it would be no more than eight to ten.

Mr. Merrill asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in opposition to the special use permit. There was none. Mr. Merrill then asked for a motion from the Commission Members. Mr. Strickland made a motion to table the request. Mr. Roche seconded the motion. The motion failed 2-3 with Mr. Strickland and Mr. Roche voting in favor and Mr. Moore, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Merrill voting against the motion. Mr. Roberts then made a motion to recommend approval. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried. 4-0

<b>2. SU-12-03</b>	<b>Change in condition of height</b>
<b>Marvin Hewitt Enterprises</b>	<b>from 30' to 45' on previously</b>
<b>350 Equipment Court</b>	<b>approved billboard</b>
<b>7/012/115</b>	

Mr. Merrill asked for a report from the Planning Department. Mr. Ferguson gave the report and stated that the application is the same as SU-12-02 except that this billboard would not be allowed an EMC because of a GDOT separation requirement for EMC's. Mr. Ferguson recommended approval of the application.

Mr. Merrill asked if the applicant was present. Mr. Shawn Britton of Mahaffey Pickens Tucker gave the presentation on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Merrill asked if there were any questions to the applicant by the Commissioners. There were none.

Mr. Merrill asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in opposition to the special use permit. There was none. Mr. Merrill then asked for a motion from the Commission Members. Mr. Roberts made a motion to recommend approval. Mr. Strickland seconded the motion. The motion carried. 4-0

Mr. Merrill entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Strickland made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The motion carried. 4-0

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John Merrill, Chairman  
Planning Commission

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Joshua M. Ferguson, Department Head  
Planning and Zoning Department