

PUBLIC HEARING "Zoning Map Amendment
March 4, 2019

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Michael Dulaney
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor via Skype
James Johnson
Samuel Lyons
Fred Mays

Members Excused: James Marshall

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
James Wetzel, Deputy City Manager
Charles Gibbons, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer via Skype
Kevin Anundson, Chief of Police
Deb Eckelberger, Franklin Development Director
Sheila Boughner, Community Development Coordinator
Harmony Motter, Finance Director
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary
Tim Dunkle, General Authority Chairman
Mark Baughman, 140 Oakland Village Dr, O.C.-FOP #50, Blues & BBQ
Christian Marshall, 1417 Elk Street
Herb Bigley, 124 Tingley Lane, Men's Softball League
Zachary Lyons, 112 Laurel Drive
Sheila Shuffstall, Franklin
Ashley Smith, 1346 Elk Street
Travis Hicks, 415 Sixth Street
Sarah Titley, Venango Newspapers, Inc.
Chris Rossetti, Explore Venango

Mayor Baker called the hearing to order at 7 PM.

Mr. Spaid explained that this ordinance would see a section of the City re-zoned from an Industrial (IN) District to a Transitional Residential Commercial (TRC) District. This comes as a result of Venango County's request that a lot at the corner of Hillside Avenue and Chestnut Street be re-zoned to allow for the conversion of a former office building into a 4-unit apartment complex. The zone would include the area between Tenth Street and Hillside Avenue, bordered by Elm and Chestnut Streets, and between Tenth and Ninth Streets, bordered by Elm and Park Streets. Mr. Spaid noted that the zoning change would also resolve the conflict between the industrial classification and the more recent designation of the area as part of a wellhead protection zone, which prohibits any industrial uses that could contaminate the City's water supply. He also suggested the change could encourage more commercial enterprises in the area.

Sheila Shreffler, who spoke on behalf of her mother, asked what this change would do to the property taxes and re-sale value. Mr. Spaid noted, while he could not give a definitive answer, he has seen such rezoning improve the property value.

There being no further comments from the audience, the hearing was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary