

**Village of Commercial Point
Public Hearing: Faith Baptist Church Sign Variance
March 21, 2016**

Mayor Joiner called the meeting to order. Administrative Assistant Baldwin took roll call with the following members present: Mr. Sadler, Mr. Townsend, Ms. Evans and Mr. O'Neil. Mr. Laxton and Mr. Geiger were absent. Solicitor Hess and Engineer Grosse were also in attendance.

Engineer Grosse opened the meeting. He said we are here tonight due to a request for a variance on a sign at the Faith Baptist Church on Welch Road. He said two things are going to change, the location of the sign and the size of the sign. He said the current sign has been approved by a variance because it is larger than what is allowed in that area and the new sign is 12 inches larger. He said it does meet the criteria of distance from a R1, so the real question is approval of the physical size of the sign. He said there is some concern about the sign location along the road because the sign will have some moving graphics. He said they have moved the sign back away from the pavement, it's probably going to be another 20 feet back towards the church from where the existing sign is, this according to the drawing provided by the church. Mr. Donald England said he put together the illustration as to what they are doing and their goal is to stay off the easement. Engineer Grosse agreed that is what is shown in the illustration. Mr. England said he ask Engineer Grosse for input as to how close they can be to the easement because visibility is an issue. Engineer Grosse agreed, visibility to the church and also we are concerned it will not be a distraction to those driving on the road. Mr. England addressed the graphics and said it is text only, similar to what Vinton County Bank displays. Engineer Grosse asked if it is moving text. Mr. England said he guesses it depends on how you define moving, it would change, but no graphics. Pastor Randy Nelson confirmed it is not scrolling, it is a text that can be changed, but not scrolling. Mr. England corrected and said it can rotate every 30-60 seconds to change the message but it will not scroll like the electronic sign at Vinton County Bank. Engineer Grosse and Mr. England agree they do not want it scrolling where someone will try and read it while driving down the road. Engineer Grosse said they would definitely want it outside the easement, it can be right along the easement and with that in mind that easement L1 is 40 feet further back from where the right of way is now so it going to move back towards the church which gets us back off the pavement. He said the only thing to keep in mind as we continue to grow, the speed on Welch Road will have to be altered, he came down through there and could not find the speed limit sign. He said this issue needs to be addressed separate from this current discussion. He did talk to Zoning Inspector Gary Grisenbock, and he had no objections to the sign based on his review. He said with those comments he has no objections and would recommend to Council for approval.

Mayor Joiner asked for any comments from the public. No Comments were made. Mayor Joiner asked for comments or questions from the Council. Mr. Sadler said it was a nice sign and he appreciated them cooperating with Westport Homes expansion and taking the opportunity of improving the signage. He said he would like to see the flag pole remain if possible. Pastor Nelson said they have to tear all of that area out. Mayor Joiner moved to adjourn the Public Hearing and move to the Special Meeting.