

Zoning Ordinance Review Committee-

July 11, 2016

Minutes

The Zoning Ordinance Review Committee met Monday July 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Training room at the Public Safety Building. Randy Keith called the meeting to order. Attending were committee members: Randy Keith, Jon White, James Reed, Michael Nolan, Ray Spencer and Keri Nusbaum.

MOTION: Motion was made by Reed to approve the minutes of June 20, 2016 as amended, seconded by White. All in favor, motion carried.

The committee looked at the definitions of Agricultural Activity provided by the Farm Bureau through Jim Reed. The notes provided state that only Counties with a population of more than 300,000 may apply farming regulations to minimum size of minimum level of revenue as a condition of being considered a farm. (55ILCS 5/5-12001). Reed said that the combination of the definitions of Farm and of Agricultural Activity accomplishes what needs to happen.

There was extended discussion about what is agricultural activity and what is not.

The committee will recommend to change the definition of farm to read as follows:

Farm- Any property or structure used primarily for an agriculture activity. Farm does not include property which is primarily used for residential purposes even though some farm products may be grown or farm animals bred or fed on the property incidental to its primary use. The ongoing removal of oil, gas, coal or any other mineral from property used for farming shall not cause that property to not be considered as used solely for farming.

The committee will also recommend the change of the definition of agricultural activity to be:

Agricultural Activity – The growing of farm crops, truck garden crops, animal and poultry husbandry, bees, fish, dairying, aquaculture, nurseries, tree farms, sod farms, flower farming and greenhouses, when such activates constitute the principal use of the land.

The committee will recommend the change of the definition of Animal Feeding Operation to read as follows:

Animal Feeding Operation – (1) Animal feeding operation (“AFO”) means a lot or facility (other than an aquatic animal production facility) where the following conditions are met:

- (i) Animals (other than aquatic animals) have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12 month prior, and
- (ii) Crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.

The committee reviewed the definition for kennel a second time. All kennels require a special use permit. After discussion the committee will possibly recommend a change to the definition. We will revisit at some time. The following verbiage was discussed.

Kennel- An establishment where four or more household pets are boarded, bred, trained, or raised for compensation.

The next meeting will be August 1 at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: Nolan made motion, seconded by Reed to adjourn. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum

Piatt County Zoning Officer