

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 330 CITY HALL
ST PAUL, MINNESOTA, MARCH 27, 2017

Continued from February 13, 2017

PRESENT: Mmes. Maddox, Trout-Oertel and Younkin Viswanathan; Messrs. Rangel Morales, Miller and Saylor of the Board of Zoning Appeals; Mr. Warner, City Attorney; Mr. Benner II, Ms. Lane and Ms. Crippen of the Department of Safety and Inspections.

ABSENT: Katrice Albert*, Gloria Bogen*

*Excused

The meeting was chaired by Thomas Saylor, Acting Chair.

Indigo Sign Works (#17-000219) 1770 Old Hudson Road : Two variances of the sign code requirements in order to reface the existing sign on the southwest corner of the intersection of Old Hudson Road and White Bear Ave. with a dynamic display (electronic messages) for the Holiday gas station that is being rebuilt. 1) The text and images on the sign must have only one color; the applicant is requesting that the text and images have full color. 2) Signs shall not change the display faster than every 20 minutes; the applicant is requesting that their sign change every 30 seconds. Two variances of the sign code requirements in the White Bear Avenue special district sign plan overlay to construct a new freestanding business sign along I-94 on the southwest corner of the Holiday gas station property. 1) New freestanding signs are permitted in the overlay district only for buildings that have a setback of at least 35 feet from the right-of-way; the Holiday gas station building will have a setback of 17.6 feet from the south property line; the applicant is requesting a variance to allow a freestanding sign within the setback area. 2) Freestanding signs have a height limit of 20 feet, the applicant is requesting a 37.5-foot high sign, for a height variance of 17.5 feet.

Ms. Lane stated that there has been more interest in this variance from the City Traffic Engineer and the County Traffic Engineer both have some concerns about these signs and would like a chance to speak. She had informed them that the public portion of the hearing has been closed, however, if the Board wants to re-open the public portion of the hearing they can. Other than that their opportunity for expressing their opinion on this project has come and gone.

Mr. Benner II stated that the Ramsey County and the St. Paul Traffic Division have both stated that they have issues with the sign with regard to the dynamic display. Their concern is that it may have some conflicting site issues with their traffic signaling lights. Also the District 1 Community Council wanted to meet with the applicant prior to the BZA hearing on April 10, 2017, they will be meeting on April 3, 2017.

Mr. Warner and the Board discussed the deadline for action on this application and advised staff that it would have to be closely monitored to allow time to notify the public for any appeal that may come out of the Board's decision.

The applicant **INDIGO SIGN WORKS**, 2885 Quail Road NE, was not present.

There was no opposition present at the hearing.

Ms. Maddox moved to layover the matter for two weeks until April 10, 2017.

Ms. Trout-Oertel seconded the motion, which passed on a voice call vote of 6-0.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Jerome Benner II

Thomas Saylor, Secretary