

FINAL

**CITY OF LEBANON
SECTION 608 SIGN TASK FORCE
Minutes, April 18, 2017
City Hall—Council Chambers
5:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifton Below, Mark Bradley, Stan Brown (alternate), Megan Chapman (alternate), Curt Jacques, Joan Monroe, Amelia Sreen, Mandy Spencer, Rob Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregorio Amaro (alternate), Brian Clancy, Daaron Mathews, Mark Pageau, Lindamae Peck (alternate), Candy Swift (alternate), Robert Welsch

STAFF PRESENT: Planning & Zoning Director David Brooks, Zoning Administrator Tim Corwin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Mr. Corwin.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Introduction/Overview

Mr. Corwin presented an overview of the process and discussed the dates of the meetings. He distributed a document listing common sign terms. He said the purpose of the Task Force is to help develop a new sign ordinance. He said the definition of “sign” in the ordinance is very broad. For the purpose of discussion, the Task Force should use what they know to be a sign and what has the most impact on the community. He said signs are regulated because they have an impact on land use, to maintain an attractive community, and to prevent hazard and nuisance. He described the purpose of zoning. Signs are regulated by determining the category (duration, type, location, use of the property, illuminated or not, purpose) and whether or not they are permitted. Regulations are applied via whether a sign is permitted and then applying the dimensional criteria.

Mr. Corwin said ordinances typically look at what the sign’s message is. He explained the impact of the Reed v. Gilbert, Arizona Supreme Court case. Content-based regulations are almost always unconstitutional. He said staff and legal counsel went through Lebanon’s ordinance and removed anything that was content based; he anticipated that the City Council would pass the temporary ordinance on April 19 until a new one is developed. Mr. Brooks reviewed the changes to the ordinance over the years.

B. Review Topics to Cover/Open Discussion

Mr. Corwin described the process to be followed: special topics during the spring, a community survey in June, drafting the regulations during the summer, reviewing and revising the draft in the fall, submitting recommendations to the Council in mid-October, and Council review and adoption in the fall or early winter. He listed the opportunities for public comment and reviewed procedural matters for meetings. Main topics are commercial/industrial uses/districts, residential uses/districts, temporary signs, prohibited signs, and excluded signs. Miscellaneous topics include flashing signs, window signs, special uses, and special regulations for the historic district.

Task Force members introduced themselves. Mr. Corwin reviewed what has been removed from the ordinance. He said any commercial sign must be treated the same as a non-commercial sign. The Task Force discussed the lack of sign makers in Lebanon, getting input from a sign maker, signage driven by sign makers or franchises, grandfathering, and the need for enforcement and penalties. Also mentioned were signs versus public art, whether sign structures are part of signs, audible "signs," and gas station videos, pavement markings, and wall-mounted restaurant menus as signs. Are instructional signs an exception? Safety signs? Signs with offensive speech? Commonly used symbols without words? Signs for community service purposes? Ads on the sides of Advance Transit buses were mentioned.

Mr. Corwin encouraged people to email him, call him, or see him with any ideas.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Glazer
Recording Secretary