

STAFF REPORT

Subject: Amend the Community Signs requirements in Section 11-22-8F 'Temporary Signs' of the North Ogden City Zoning Ordinance.

It has been requested by North Ogden City Community Services that the time allowed for temporary Community Signs placed by the City be extended beyond the existing 10 day period. Staff recommended the time limit be extended to 30 days and an ordinance amendment was prepared. The Planning Commission discussed the proposed amendment at their January 18, 2012 meeting. Their concerns were; the condition of banners tends to deteriorate quickly and the signs are left up longer than the ordinance permits with a lack of enforcement regarding taking the signs down. Their recommendation to the City Council is to allow the signs to be posted for three weeks which is the same as the maximum display of banners for businesses and, hopefully the signs will be in better condition at the end of this period. See the Planning Commission meeting minutes below.

The City signs could include information about recreation league sign-ups, lifeguard recruiting, program announcements, or public information notices for the City. Staff believes this is a good change to allow more time for such information to be "out" for the public.

By State law City Council must hold a public hearing prior to taking action to amend a Zoning Ordinance.

NORTH OGDEN PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

January 18, 2012

5. **CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RECOMMENDATION AMENDING SECTION 11-22-2 "DEFINITIONS" AND 11-22-8F "COMMUNITY SIGNS" IN THE NORTH OGDEN CITY ZONING ORDINANCE.**

Craig Barker referred to the staff report and proposed amendments. Community Services asked that this be considered. They want to be able to put up sandwich board signs on City property when they have something to advertise. The current ordinance limits these to a 10 day period and they felt that is too short and they want to extend that to 30 days. That is the only section that has been changed. If passed it would go to the City Council

for a public hearing and action. The Planning Commission may also have a public hearing if they want.

Chairman Kiser asked if this applies to all temporary signs. Craig Barker said it only applies to community signs. The City has events or the City sponsors events, including Cherry Days, Arts Festival, Senior Center boutique, and those kinds of things.

Commissioner Thomas asked about the time limit on temporary signs for the general public. Craig Barker said it depends because there are different types of signs that can be put out. The biggest issue is who can put them on what property and where in the City. The park strips are all public property. Boutiques in the homes, garage sales, and estate sales want to stick the signs in those areas and the Building Official pulls those out. Mr. Barker stated those signs cannot be placed there. He said the City does not allow off-premise signs. Home-for-Sale signs can only be placed on the property that is for sale. He said they may notice when those happen they put them back off onto the private property and we have some enforcement issues. People generally know City staff is not around on the weekends and that is when they put the signs up. He said staff will occasionally pull them down on Saturday.

Commissioner Brown said there has been so much abuse of the original timeline. She said the Cherry Day's and the Arts Festival signs stayed up forever. If we are going to make it 30 days we will see them in 40 days, 50 days, and 60 days. They begin looking tacky in the weather. She said it may be an excessive length of time. Craig Barker said it is whatever the Planning Commission recommends to the City Council. Commissioner Brown said she would want us to be adamant about enforcing the 30 days. Craig Barker said we use the building department for enforcement.

Commissioner Knight said even if they were in violation in this sense Gary Kerr is not going to write a citation. Craig Barker said if you go and look in the back of the Building Inspector's pickup it is $\frac{3}{4}$ full of signs. Commissioner Knight said they are not City signs though. He said his problem is that he doesn't want it to seem like the City has an exception to what the normal public has. He wants it in line with the commercial businesses so we seem more business and residential friendly. Craig Barker said he personally does not like to see signs in the public right-of-way because it can be a hazard. The City takes a risk every time they put a sign on private property.

Commissioner Thomas asked what is the difference with signs advertising lifeguards wanted; but 7-Eleven can't put up help wanted signs. Craig Barker said they can on their own property, but not in the park strip.

Chairman Kiser said some events warrant a 30 day sign and others don't. Craig Barker said the Planning Commission doesn't have to make a decision tonight. After the Planning Commission provides a recommendation the City Council can do what they want anyway.

Commissioner Quinney said there is only one entity that has requested that we look at this. Craig Barker said yes, Community Services.

Vice-Chairman Dalpiaz said to be consistent they are looking at banners and they are allowed for three weeks. He suggested using the same three week timeframe. Commissioner Knight agreed. Chairman Kiser said sometimes 10 days isn't enough.

Commissioner Knight said City Council will make the final decision anyway we are just making a recommendation.

Commissioner Brown said she would be comfortable with that but wishes they were more consistent.

Commissioner Thomas said three weeks like commercial but after an event is over the sign needs to come down right away. Craig Barker said there is a statement requiring the sign to come down right away. Commissioner Brown said it's not enforced. Commissioner Thomas said we need to police ourselves.

Commissioner Brown said she would like to emphasize to the City Council that the duration is important and the Planning Commission want it to come down. It has been abused. Craig Barker said he agrees. He has concerns about the maintenance of the banners.

Commissioner Knight said the ordinance is to give businesses leeway. Craig Barker said that's right, it's extra signage. He said we have made a lot of changes in the past year.

Commissioner Dalpiaz motioned to approve a recommendation amending section 11-22-2 "Definitions" and 11-22-8F "Community Signs" in the North Ogden City Zoning Ordinance with the exception that the timeframe be changed to three weeks. Commissioner Knight seconded the motion.

Commissioner Quinney suggested putting the statement in there about the enforcement because the City should set an example. Craig Barker said the statement will be highlighted in the minutes.

Voting on the motion:

Chairman Kiser	yes
Commissioner Brown	yes
Commissioner Knight	yes
Commissioner Quinney	yes
Commissioner Residori	yes
Commissioner Thomas	yes

Motion was approved unanimously.