

TOWN OF HOMER PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 11,2022

PUBLIC HEARING

Present were: Mayor Doug Cheek, Cliff Hill, James Dumas, Jerry Payne

The public hearing was called to order by Mayor Doug Cheek.

The public hearing regarding amending the existing home occupation ordinance was called to order by Mayor Cheek. He asked David Syfan, town attorney to explain the ordinance. Mr. Syfan stated that the definition of a home occupation in the existing ordinance is unclear where a home occupation could be. The proposed text amendment clarifies where a home occupation can be and does not allow home occupations in R-2 zoning districts.

Public hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Present were James Dumas, Cliff Hill & Jerry Payne

The invocation was given by Jerry Payne.

The pledge to the flag was led by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Motion was made by James Dumas to approve the public hearing and regular meeting minutes from September 13, 2022. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (4-0)

Home Occupation Text Amendment

An ordinance to amend the ordinance establishing the zoning ordinance if the Town of Homer, Georgia; to amend section 3.10 to provide for a new definition of "Home Occupation;" to provide that home occupations, under certain requirements, are an inherently allowed use under certain zoning districts established by the zoning ordinance; and for other purposes.

Motion was made by Jerry Payne to accept and approve the text amendment to the home occupation ordinance. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (4-0)

Third Party Inspection Ordinance

An ordinance adopting the third party inspection ordinance to clarify requirements and procedures for conducting and submitting inspections; to provide for permitted inspection types; to provide for third party plans review; to provide requirements and procedures for conducting and submitting plan reviews; to provide for relevant definitions; to provide for progressive penalties for violations; to repeal conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes.

Mr. Syfan explained that this ordinance was put in place in the event that the town couldn't perform plan reviews or inspections in a timely manner that a third party inspector could perform the plan review or inspection. In the event that a third party inspector is used to perform a plan review, the town will be paid half of the actual plan review fee.

Motion was made by James Dumas to adopt the ordinance on third party inspections. Motion was seconded by Jerry Payne and approved. (4-0)

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Fireworks ordinance amendment

An ordinance to amend the ordinances of the Town of Homer, Georgia, to regulate the sale, use, ignition of, possession, manufacture, transport or the storage of any consumer fireworks or fireworks to the extent permitted by the general law of the state of Georgia; to provide a title for the ordinance to provide definitions for the ordinance; to prohibit the sale, use or possession of consumer fireworks or fireworks upon or over the public property of the town except by permit issued by the town council; to provide for the issuance of special use permits as to the use of any consumer fireworks or fireworks at a time not permitted generally under state law or at a location not permitted for such use absent a special use permit; to provide for the regulatory fee for the issuance of a special use permit; to provide for the issuance of an occupational tax license to allow a permanent fireworks retail sales facility or store to be located within the municipality; to provide regulations regarding a temporary consumer fireworks retail sales stand; to provide for the license fee for a distributor selling consumer fireworks from a temporary consumer fireworks retail sales stand; and for other purposes.

Mr. Syfan explained that this ordinance amendment regulates when fireworks can be shot.

Motion was made by Jerry Payne to approve the amendment to the fireworks ordinance. Motion was seconded by James Dumas and approved. (4-0)

Grants

Audrey Turner spoke to the mayor and council regarding various grants that she has had success in getting. She suggested that they contact GMA & UGA to decide which direction to go in regarding the grants that are needed for the town. She also suggested partnering with Banks County to help give some leverage to be able to get a desired grant.

GMA Annual Dinner Table Sponsorship

James Dumas made the motion to sponsor a table at the 2022 GMA annual dinner and purchase tickets for all who are interested in attending. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (4-0)

Executive Session

Motion was made by James Dumas to go into executive session at 7:13 p.m. to discuss litigation. Motion was seconded by Jerry Payne and approved. (4-0)

Roll call: Mayor Cheek, James Dumas, Jerry Payne, and Cliff Hill.

Executive session ended at 7:42 p.m.

Roll call: Mayor Cheek, James Dumas, Jerry Payne, and Cliff Hill.

No decisions made.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Ayers