

Special Meeting of City Council March 3, 2025

City Council met in person for special session on Monday March 3, 2025, and streamed live over YouTube, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mayor Long who opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called and present were Council Members Heather Alexander, Tami Brannan, Jeffrey Brinker, Richard Conklin, Barbara Masorti, Steve Stevenson, and Mayor Joel Long.

Also in attendance was City Manager Gregory Wilson, City Planner & Development Coordinator Abbey Roberts, Project Manager Carter Simcox, Director of Licensing and Permits Cyndi Walker, and Director of Community Life Kasey Dumm. Guests in attendance were Christopher Miller, Judy Derkin, Chris Albright, Jackie Bartlett, Virginia Jones, Mike Strobe, Ty Hall, Keith Roberts, Micah Clausen, Elsa Winch, Barb Elling, Thomas Elling, Sharon Stover, Jim Shultz, Jeanna Mullen, Michelle Spedding, William Spedding, Bre Brannan, Joshua Hudson, Susan Watt, Walter Watt, Richard Marcinkevage, Angela Boswell, and Robert Neff.

PUBLIC HEARING

Regarding Ordinance No. 2025-02 Consideration of Ordinance 2025-02 amending Chapter 410 “Zoning” of the Lock Haven City Code

STATEMENT FROM THE ZONING OFFICER

The Zoning Officer addressed City Council, reading the amendment to Ordinance 2025-02, and giving the reasons for the request for the amendment. The amendment would change the Zoning Ordinance to add multifamily dwellings as part of an age-qualified housing project or a veteran housing project as a permitted use by right in the Low-Density Residential (R-L), Medium-Density Residential (R-M), and High-Density Residential (R-H) Zoning Districts. The Zoning Officer provided comments from the City Planning Commission from their January 7th meeting, which were also reviewed by the County Planning Commission at their January 21st meeting, both providing favorable comments to the amendments. Sam Wiser, of Salzmann & Hughes, addressed Council and answered questions regarding the amendment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council heard from residents regarding the amendment. Bill and Michelle Spedding, Virginia Jones, Judy Derkin, Joann Anderson, Eric Malone, Tom Elling, and Ty Hall all of whom addressed Council, citing their concerns for the amendment, and asking questions to the Zoning Officer and Atty. Wiser. Residents were concerned about the parking, and the impact it would have on the surrounding neighborhood. The Zoning Officer and City Planner cited studies done in State College and Williamsport, where similar amendments have been made, and the results of the study.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Council was given the opportunity to ask questions to the Zoning Officer, City Planner, and Mr. Wiser regarding the amendment. Council Member Brinker requested that phone calls be made to retirement centers in State College, Williamsport, and Lock Haven, to ask how many parking spaces are being used in each facility.

Council considered Ord. No. 2022-02 amending the Zoning Ordinance to add multifamily dwellings as part of an age-qualified housing project or a veteran housing project as a permitted use by right in the Low-Density Residential (R-L), Medium-Density Residential (R-M), and High-Density Residential (R-H) Zoning Districts. **On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Ms. Brannan, and carried by a vote of 6 to 1 with Dr. Brinker voting in opposition, the ordinance was adopted on first reading.** The second reading of the ordinance will take place at the Council's regular meeting on March 17, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Ms. Alexander, at 6:55 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.