

New London Council Workshop April 24, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m.

Present: John Martin, Janice Myers, Mike Willis, Bill Curtis, Marion Paramore, Neil Winslow, Bob James, Sandy Sword, James Van Sicklè, Cheri Raphael, Paul Tecpanecatl, Shawn Pickworth and Steve Bond

The workshop was held to discuss a new zoning map for the Village of New London. Shawn Pickworth stated that the zoning map needs to match the zoning codes. Currently they do not match. Shawn then went over the steps for putting the new zoning map in place. The proposed new zoning map was displayed so everyone attending the workshop could view the parcels that are being affected. The proposed zoning map will be adopted by an ordinance. Shawn stated that the proposed map will be on display at several locations throughout the village. A Notice of Public Hearing will be published in the New London Record 30 in advance of a Public Hearing scheduled by the Planning Commission. Within 15 days after the Public Hearing is held, the Planning Commission will hold a formal public meeting and will pass a motion to recommend approval of the map and ordinance. Council will then schedule a Public Hearing of Council. This will be held within 45 days after the Planning Commission has acted. A notice of the schedule Public Hearing will be published at least 30 days in advance of the hearing. After the Public Hearing is held, Council must act on the proposal within 60 days. There is a 30 day waiting period to allow for anyone to file for a referendum. The last step is for the Mayor and Council President to sign off on the newly adopted Zoning Map.

Paul Tecpanecatl from Poggemeyer Design Group then spoke. He stated he had traveled all over the Village of New London to identify any potential problems and to ensure the proposed map was put together in the best possible way for the village. He did note that there were some problems with properties that had been vacant for years.

Mr. Tecpanecatl explained that the problem with the zoning map was that the original zoning map for the Village of New London was never repealed. In order to approve a new zoning map, the old zoning map will have to be repealed.

Sandy Sword voiced some concerns about her vacant land she and her husband own and farm by the school. Currently, their vacant land is zoned industrial but under the new proposed zoning map their property would be zoned as residential. She stated they bought the property as industrial and they would like to keep it as industrial.

Mr. Tecpanecatl replied that it is not compatible to have property zoned industrial by the school. When the original zoning map was created the school was not located next to the Sword's vacant property. He stated that the Sword's would be able to continue farming their land. Nothing would have to change.

Mrs. Sword was still unhappy with her property being changed to residential and she stated she and her husband were being good stewards of the property and would not sell their property to anyone who would put any kind of industry on the land.

Zoning Inspector, Bob James, explained that the function of zoning is to make sure when Russ and Sandy Sword are gone, an industrial business will not be able to go in right beside the school.

Mr. Tecpanecatl also explained that you can't spot zone. You can't zone one property one way when all the surrounding properties are zoned something else.

Mrs. Sword stood firm that she does not want the zoning for her property to be changed but it was noted that ultimately it is the Zoning and Planning Commission and Council's decision whether the new zoning map is approved.

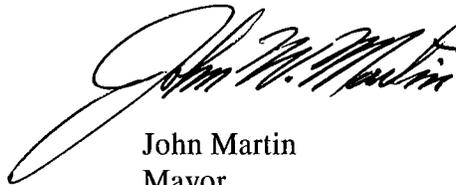
Currently, the map is just for residents to look at. Residents will have an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns at the public hearing. Mr. Tecpanecatl stated the goal is to make sure everyone is aware of what is being proposed. The zoning map we have in place now is not workable for the village now.

There was no opposition to posting the proposed zoning map for residents to view.

Meeting was adjourned.



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



John Martin
Mayor