

Planning Board Public Hearing Minutes
Special Permit – City Gas, 3 Brown Avenue
(meeting is being recorded)

On Tuesday, December 8, 2015, the Holyoke Planning Board held a Public Hearing regarding a Special Permit for an increase in size sign, for the property located on Brown Avenue, submitted by Makkah, LLC. The meeting was held in the 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall Annex, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Holyoke, Massachusetts at 5:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Planning Board

Mimi Panitch Chairperson
Christian LaChapelle..... Vice-Chairman
Eileen Regan Secretary
Harry Montalvo Associate

Planning Staff

Jeffrey Burkott Principal Planner
Sharon Konstantinidis Head Clerk

Others Present

Robert Neth Ct Signcraft
Dennis Croteau 32 Concord Avenue

David Bartley Ward 3 Councilor
John Radner 18 Forest Ridge, Agawam

CHRIS LACHAPELLE at 5:03 p.m., called for a motion to open the Public Hearing. A motion was made by EILEEN REGAN and seconded by MIMI PANITCH. The motion carried 4-0.

ROBERT NETH stated that in error, changes were made to the existing pylon sign without obtaining a Special Permit. They believed that because it was a refurbishing/refacing of the existing "CITGO" sign, at the South Street entrance, that a permit was not required. The existing sign measures 85 square feet. The proposed "City Gas" sign is 81 square feet; 80 square feet is the maximum allowed in a BG zone. The second pylon sign located on Brown Avenue will be removed.

EILEEN REGAN noted that the total signage on the property would be reduced.

Photo renderings were viewed. The existing white panel under the pricing would be removed.

JEFFREY BURKOTT asked how the proposed dimensions were derived. ROBERT NETH responded that a square box was drawn around the sign.

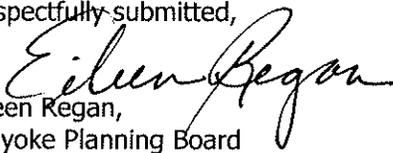
JEFFREY BURKOTT questioned if the square box were changed to rounded edges, perhaps it would reduce the square footage in order to reduce the square footage to 80 square feet.

MIMI PANITCH asked if the digital section of the pricing located at the bottom could be reduced. ROBERT NETH responded that if the bottom panel were reduced to 62 by 72 square feet, it would reduce the sign to the 80 square feet.

CHRIS LACHAPELLE asked for those that wish to speak in favor or against, or to ask questions to come forward. COUNCILOR BARTLEY reviewed the submitted photos noting that it would not be much of a visual change to the existing sign.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 5:23 p.m., a motion was made by EILEEN REGAN and seconded by HARRY MONTALVO to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Eileen Regan,
Holyoke Planning Board