

Sumter City-County Planning Commission

April 27, 2011

OA-11-04, Fireworks Stands (County)

I. THE REQUEST

Applicant: Sumter County Council

Request: A request to amend **Article 5, Section C Temporary Uses and Article 8, Section 8.i.7 Miscellaneous and Temporary Signs** in order to clarify the permitting process for fireworks stands and to permit temporary signage for the use.

II. BACKGROUND

On March 8, 2011, Sumter County Council directed Planning Staff to amend the Zoning Ordinance to permit additional allowable signage for temporary fireworks stands and to relax the permitting process, perceived as overly burdensome or unnecessary for firework stand operators.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

- A. Temporary Signage. County Council directed Staff to provide language allowing banners and fluttering devices for temporary fireworks stands (new language in ***bold italics***). The Ordinance would be amended in the following way:

8.i.7. Miscellaneous and Temporary Signs.

n. Fire Cracker Stands. Each fire cracker stand may have one on-premise banner for the period of the temporary stand. The banner may not exceed 32 sq. ft. and may only be affixed to the structure. Ribbons, pennants, spinners, streamers and other similar devices are permitted without a permit.

- B. Permit Process. The Zoning Ordinance provides for the Planning Commission to adopt a schedule of fees of all land use applications, including that for temporary stands such as fire cracker stands. The current fee is \$30 per occurrence. For fire cracker stands this is often twice per year for an annual fee of \$60 dollars. The fee is designed to address the administrative review/zoning review of the temporary use. In addition, a permit is required for the tracking of the use which is permitted a maximum of 30 days. For operators placing the stands in the same location, twice per year (usually around the 4th of July and New Year's Day), a second fee and review may not be necessary.

Therefore we recommend that a permit may be applied for and issued for both occasions so long as the dates of operation are identified for both the July 4th and New Year's period. Thus, operators would pay one annual \$30.00 fee per year for each fire cracker stand, instead of two fees equaling \$60.00. The Ordinance would be amended in this fashion (new language ***bold and italics***):

5.c.6. Permitted Temporary Uses

d. Fire cracker stands in the NC, LC, GC, or industrial districts for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days ***twice per year. One annual temporary permit may be issued for each occurrence so long as the dates of operation are identified on the annual permit. Otherwise, a temporary permit and fee is required for each occurrence.***

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

As noted above.

IV. DRAFT MOTION

V. PLANNING COMMISSION – APRIL 27, 2011

The Sumter-City Planning Commission at its meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, voted to recommend approval for this request.

VI. COUNTY COUNCIL – MAY 10, 2011 – FIRST READING