



**CITY OF WALESKA
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
April 10, 2017**

Present: Doris Jones, Mayor
Curtis Endicott, Councilman
Melissa Fournier, Councilwoman
Paul Ice, Councilman
Mary Helen Lamb, Councilwoman
Dana Thompson, City Attorney
Lou Stewart, City Clerk/Manager

Not Present: Hill Cochran, Mayor Pro-Tem
Edna Cook, Councilwoman
Stanley Townsend, Townsend Pipeline

Item 1: Call to Order

Mayor Jones called the public hearing to order with a quorum present.

Item 2: Public Hearing:
Rezoning – 423 Bartow Street – Applicant: Phoebe Maze

Ms. Margaret Stallings gave a presentation of the application submitted from Ms. Maze to rezone her property to GC-LU (General Commercial-Limited Use). She informed that this zoning would give the applicant a range of commercial uses including a Bed and Breakfast with an event facility. She further informed that the Planning Commission denied the request and Ms. Stallings suggested that the City update their permitted use table for NC (Neighborhood Commercial) to include a Bed and Breakfast. This would allow the accommodations but is a much smaller commercial scale.

Ms. Maze informed Council that she agreed that some of the uses of GC-LU did not fit the neighborhood. A Bed and Breakfast seems to be what potential buyers look at but, recently someone inquired about the use for multi-family duplexes on the back lot. She expressed to Council that she hopes the rezoning can be worked out.

City Attorney Dana Thompson informed that she and Lou Stewart had met with Margaret Stallings today and that she had also spoken with Ms. Maze. Ms. Thompson advised Council that the City should consider revising the permitted uses in NC (Neighborhood Commercial) to include a Bed and Breakfast. She further advised that the rezoning request be tabled until the revisions have been made and approved by City Council. A public hearing will be held before final approval of the revisions.

Mr. Charles Keeling, a Bartow Street resident informed that in years past the property across from Ms. Sharon Romano requested a zoning change to commercial and was denied. He also stated that he feels if 423 Bartow Street becomes commercial, that it will continue all the way down the street.

Ms. Sharon Romano informed that she lives across the street from 423 Bartow and loves this area. She wants to continue to be able to sit on her front porch without seeing a commercial business across from her home. She also feels this jeopardizes her safety and the feel that she is in a residential neighborhood. Ms. Romano also submitted a petition signed by other residents on Bartow Street who were opposed to the rezoning.

Cindy Iraci a Bartow Street resident of thirty-five years stated that she knew the City had to plan for growth and Hwy 140 and 108 was designed for commercial. She felt that the portion of the lot facing Hwy 140 should be the only space that should be designated commercial. The remainder that faced Bartow Street should stay residential, leave the City small and leave homes where they are.

Mayor Jones adjourned the Public Hearing.

Doris A. Jones, Mayor

Attest:

Lou Stewart, City Clerk