



PLANNING & ZONING MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning & Zoning Commission

FROM: Matt Chesmore – Building Official

DATE OF MEETING: November 5th 2024

ITEM TITLE: Article 17, Signs amendment

BACKGROUND:

In October Code Enforcement received a concern regarding a “blade” flag mounted in a flowerpot in the downtown area. Upon investigation I did find a illegal blade flag and immediately asked the owner to remove it as it violates city ordinances. While investigating this complaint I came upon a “sandwich” sign place upon the sidewalk in the ROW for other business located on the south side of 1st St E. When I returned to my office, I informed this business owner that the advertisement media violated city ordinance and asked them to remove it. They promptly removed the sign. On 10/7/24 several business owners made statements at a regular council work session that they disagreed with the ordinance and asked if the Council would consider an amendment to the ordinance. The Council listened to the statements but were unable to act as this was in a work session. On 10/28/24 the City Council approved a moratorium suspending enforcement of the sign ordinance for certain signs, in certain areas of downtown for 120 days or until Article 17 could be amended.

After reviewing Article 17, staff identified several other areas that could be improved upon and thus made additional amendments to the language.

Most likely Article 17, as amended, will be reviewed by the City Council on 11/4/24, at a regular work session. Pending legal review, any updates herd from the Commission and Council will be made with a final draft presented to City Council at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Article 17 is within the Zoning Ordinances and therefore must be reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Staff recommends review of Article 17, Signs ordinance, as amended and make recommendations of any changes the Commission would like to see made.