

TOWN OF ASHLAND
12094 ROUTE 23
ASHLAND, NEW YORK 12407

Town Board Special Zoom Meeting
February 2, 2022

Zoom Attendance:

Supervisor	Richard E. Tompkins
Councilman	James Lawrence
Councilman	Scott Tuttle
Councilman	Jeff Gonzalez
Councilwoman	Cathi Aplin
Town Clerk	Dawn Thorp

Attending On Line:

Len Carson, James Thorington, Cathi Aplin, Scott Tuttle, Richard Tompkins, Jeff Gonzalez.

Councilman James Lawrence, Town Clerk Dawn Thorp, Deputy Heather Younes

This informal meeting was set up by Diane Cross to give Mr. Carson a way to discuss his proposal regarding the sign on Rt. 23 with the Town Board.

This informal meeting started with, Mr Carson gave information on himself and his business. He has 3 other signs, and that he would like to include this sign also. He is interested in adding more local and small businesses and the community. He stated he would like to move the sign closer to the road, as it sits approximately 64 feet from the road at this time. He would like to move it to the public utility line. He stated the sign would be turned off remotely at 10PM and on at 6AM.

Councilman Lawrence asked how many prescribers there are now, Mr Carson said there are 5 at the time. Councilman Lawrence said he owns a business in Windham, people seek him out to complain about the sign. They complain its too bright at night traveling through. He also said, local business owners stated to him they won't advertise on it because they do not like the sign and location. Mr Carson said, this is a different sign from the signs they use, and they will have remote control of the sign. This will be for the community as well, for the Town and events.

Councilman Scott Tuttle stated that with the tree line behind the sign (east) and its location right now, it is not an issue for a young man with his autism. The moving of the sign, is a concern to us, as it may cause issues for him. His family has a house east of the sign and have been residents and taxpayers for almost 40 years. This may not seem like much to you, but it is very important to us. Councilman Tuttle also stated looking at the sign at 55 miles an hour is about 6 seconds. What would being closer to the road accomplish? Mr Carson stated they follow the state DOT regulations, it would give a longer flow time of 8 seconds or more, for the advertiser.

Supervisor Tompkins asked the board members if there were any other questions.

Councilman Gonzalez stated it is extremely bright going by at night, most people do not look at it. Several members agreed the sign is too bright at night and is hard to look at. Mr Carson stated the sign with a white back ground is the cause of the brightness.

He said the sign can be controlled off site with the back ground changed, and brightness lowered. The white background is not a good choice. He also stated it would give advertisers an additional 4-5 seconds double the time of viewing while traveling east.

Councilwoman Aplin asked if moving the sign contingent on taking it over? Where do you want it moved to? Mr Carson stated read (flow) time is doubled if it were closer. He was surprised the sign is where it is, further back than the Town ordinances state. He said moving it to the East next to the utility Pole right of way, ten feet from the utility would double the advertising flow time. He also stated if it hasn't caused a problem for the person so far, in approximately 4 yrs. he didn't believe it would now. If the sign is off at 10pm.

Councilman Tuttle if he remembers correctly the main reason for having the sign in its present location was for Raymond's benefit. That's why it's where it is. We thought as a community it would be better for Raymond.

The Supervisor asked how close do you want to move the sign and what will be gained in viewing from 6 seconds Councilman Tuttle stated at 55 MPH? Mr Carson stated at least double the viewing time. Mr Carson stated it could be turned off at night, 10pm and on at 6am. he stated moving it out should be okay for Raymond.

The Supervisor Tompkins said, we need to go over the footage and physically walk and measure the demarcation lines of the public utility right of way before we decide anything. We will need to discuss it further. Mr Carson is trying to understand to the signs across the street is not compliant with this ordinance-He drove around looking at all the signs, trying to understand the application and structure of the ordinance.

Supervisor Tompkins and the board will do our homework, talk with the town attorney we have a board meeting, February 14th, to discuss it further.
Meeting ended with no further questions, 4:35PM

Dawn Thorp
Town Clerk
Dated: February 2, 2022