

The Parksley Town Council held a Special Meeting on Wednesday August 29, 2007 immediately following the Public Hearing to consider the Special Use Permits for Matt Hart to have an arcade and Tim Valentine to have billiard tables.

Present: Mayor Rick Chase; Council: Rodney Smoot, Ellen Boyce, James Eichelberger and Carter Parks; Chief of Police Tommy Carpenter; Director of Public Works/Zoning Administrator Fred Matthews and Clerk Denise Bernard

Visitors: Frances Goard, Helena Killian, Tim Valentine and Matt Hart

Mayor Chase called the Special meeting to order. He stated that now is when the Council needs to make their suggestions; he then asked for a motion to issue a special use permit for Mr. Valentine and Mr. Hart and then discuss.

Councilman Eichelberger made the motion to issue Special Use Permits to Matt Hart and Tim Valentine. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Smoot. This motion was not voted on.

Councilman Eichelberger stated that he felt this was good, bringing more business into town; may need restrictions (closing times and opening after Church on Sunday 12:00). Glad to see the two businesses opening, it is up to them how they do things. If it gets rowdy, the Police should have the authority to close them up.

Chief Carpenter stated that when alcohol is served, there will be problems, but that is his job, to take care of and they will make arrests. He doesn't have a problem with this, but if it is a nightly problem, he will come back to the Council. The Police can shut down the business for the night.

Mayor Chase questioned whether the Council could set the hours.

Dir.of Pub.Wks.Zonining Admin. Matthews stated that the Council could withdraw the Special Use Permit.

T. Valentine stated that he didn't think M. Hart should be made to close before the curfew, he may have adults also.

Chief Carpenter stated that it is the responsibility of the child to be off the streets by curfew, if parents are with the kids, they are leaving work etc. they can be out after the curfew.

Mayor Chase stated that he was confident that the business owners will handle these matters.

Councilman Parks stated that he had reservations, but wanted to give the two businesses a chance, and the Parksley Police Dept. is not a private security. He also asked if alcohol could be brought from the bar to the billiard room. *ABC license is for whole premises.*

Chief Carpenter stated that it is a courtesy, not a guarantee, to walk through, walk to the bank, etc. Business owner will have to police the people. It doesn't take much to take the one officer on duty out of service for a while. Doesn't have a problem trying this, knows of other similar businesses that have problems. There is a risk of injuries to the officers and civilians.

Mayor Chase stated that the owner needs to establish a set of rules.

Councilwoman Boyce stated that she was glad to have businesses in town, but would rather have different establishments than these.

Mayor Chase stated that he enjoys playing billiards, hadn't seen any fights in the establishments. Some billiard rooms don't allow cursing or anyone under 18. The Council could issue a temporary permit for one year, if there are any problems can rescind in that year. The Special Use permit can automatic renew or the council can discuss it yearly; he suggested letting the state law govern the operating hours.

The previous motion and the 2nd were withdrawn.

Councilwoman Boyce made the motion to issue Special Use Permits for one year, after opening, with an annual review at no cost to the businesses, for Tim Valentine and Matt Hart. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Eichelberger. Ayes – Smoot, Boyce, Eichelberger, Parks. No-none. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Smoot made the motion to adjourn. Motion was 2nd by Councilwoman Boyce. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm