

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
January 31, 2017

A hearing before the City Council of the City of Fayette had been set for 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on January 31, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present for the hearing: Mayor Ray Nelson, Councilmembers Linda McCraw, Eddy Campbell, Jason Cowart, Cedric Wilson and Jerry Nichols. Mayor Nelson announced that a quorum was present.

The purpose of the hearing before the City Council of the City of Fayette was to determine whether to renew the business license of Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc.,

Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc., had opened its store before obtaining the necessary building permits and architectural drawing. Several months elapsed after its opening and no required building permits were obtained nor had an architectural drawing been submitted to the City. Under the *Code of Ordinances for the City of Fayette, Alabama* and through the City's adoption of the International Building Code and the NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code, building permits, inspections and certificates of occupancy are required before a business is allowed to be open. Under the *Code of Alabama*, architectural drawings are required for renovations of commercial buildings over 2,500 square feet. Regardless of the size of a commercial building, building permits are always required for the renovation of commercial buildings.

A letter notifying Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc. of the hearing had been delivered to the store on January 11, 2017. In the letter it stated that Sterling Bridges needed to comply the City building codes and the State regulations regarding architectural drawings.

Mr. Scottie Porter of Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc. was present for the hearing.

HEARING ON WHETHER TO RENEW BUSINESS LICENSE

Mayor Nelson announced Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc., had reduced the occupancy space of the store to below 2,500 square feet; consequently, an architectural drawing was no longer needed. Mayor Nelson also stated that Sterling Bridges Antiques, Inc., had obtained the necessary building permits for its renovations.

Mayor Nelson stated that because Sterling Bridges, Inc., was in compliance no hearing would be held.

Mayor Nelson and City Engineer Dewayne Roby reviewed with the Council the matters that led up to the hearing being scheduled. Mr. Roby reported that he visited with Mr. Porter concerning the requirements for the building. In June of 2016, a letter was provided to all contractors and building owners in downtown Fayette stating they must comply with all building codes and requirements for architectural drawings.

Councilmember Cowart suggested the City develop a written checklist to use when dealing with building code and permit matters.

City Attorney Dale Lawrence and Councilmember Campbell spoke concerning the Historic Preservation Commission and the matters that come before this board.

Mr. Scottie Porter addressed the Council concerning the issue of the building permits and architectural drawings for his business. He suggested the City place information concerning the building permits, architectural drawings, etc., with the Water Board, Gas Board and Alabama Power Company to give to potential business owners. Mr. Porter stated he only asked for a fair and just application of the rules and this was what he was upset about. He said that others were not complying with the rules in the City. Mr. Porter said that no one told him that he had to have architectural drawings or business permits. Councilmember Campbell said he and others had had conversations with him concerning the requirements for building permits and architectural drawings code requirements and he could not plead ignorance to not knowing about it.

There being no further comments the meeting was closed.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk