

Town of Porter
Board of Zoning Appeals
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2000

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Present were Mr. Chemma, Mr. Bell, Mr. Niepokoj, Mr. Childress, and Mr. Beckman. Quorum was established. Also present were Mr. Mandon and Mr. Kennedy.

C. Consideration of minutes from previous meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as written was made by Mr. Childress. Second by Mr. Bell. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Audience Participation

There was no audience participation.

E. Old Business

None

F. New Business

- 1. Public Hearing: Request for Height Variance, Travel Centers of America:** Wayne Hickson and Ken Anderson present to speak on behalf of the petitioner. The petitioner is requesting a height variance for a new freestanding pedestal sign that would stand 130'.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:17 p.m. Proponents to the request were Randy Cleveland, owner of Cleveland Tire. Opponents to the request were Linda Hodges (470 E. Oak Hill Road) who questioned if the request was approved, would other businesses be allowed to request and construct the same. Mr. Kennedy stated that each request is dealt with on a case-by-case basis, and that if all facts in such a request were the same, the outcome should be the same. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Mandon stated he understands the need for a pylon sign, but at a lower height of 70'. Mr. Bell stated he did not agree with the request, and commented that the truck stop has been at the same location for several years without any pylon signage and that INDOT provides sufficient signage on the highway.

Mr. Niepokoj suggested the petitioner utilize billboards instead of a pylon sign. Mr. Childress commented he understood the petitioner's request to encourage more business at the location, but expressed concern about the potential height requests in the future.

Motion to deny the petitioner's request was made by Mr. Bell. Second by Mr. Niepokoj. A vote was called: Mr. Niepokoj – Yes, Mr. Chemma – Yes, Mr. Childress – No, Mr. Bell – Yes, Mr. Beckman – Yes. Motion carried 4-1.

E. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Childress to adjourn. Second by Mr. Bell. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

John Beckman
Chairman

Lisa Liebert
Secretary