

**CITY OF METTER
PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2019
5:15 P.M.**

A public hearing was held at City Hall on Monday, December 09, 2019 at 5:15 p. m. in the Council Chambers.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilwoman Amy Harrelson
Councilman Paul MacGregor
Councilman Brandon Sikes
City Manager Carter Crawford
City Clerk Angie Conner
City Attorney Brent Carter
Director of Tourism/Business Development Heidi Jeffers
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Finance Manager Cindy Collins
Carvy Snell, Metter Advertiser

Councilwoman Rashida Taylor was not present for this hearing.

The following guests were present:

Pernal Franklin
Cheryl Aasheim
Bryan Aasheim
Joe DeLoach
Larry Hadden
Grady Franklin
Greg Strickland
Victoria Gaitten
Bobby Jones
Deborah Johns
Dustin Vernon
Susan Williams

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the hearing to order and welcomed everyone.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the hearing was to hear a request for a conditional use application from Perdan Properties requesting the City to lease three parking spaces in front of 39 N.E. Broad Street (Parcel M44 072) for the purpose of using the area to install a dining dock for Taqueria El Sol Mexican Restaurant.

Mr. Pernal Franklin passed out drawings for the council to review explaining his request. He said that there is plenty of parking everywhere downtown and he is only asking for three parking spaces right in front of the Taqueria El Sol Mexican Restaurant. He said that he would dress up the area and make it safe. It would be a nice addition to downtown. Mr. Franklin said that he is not asking the city to spend any money. He said that he would put the dock there on a temporary basis and if it doesn't work then it can be picked up and moved. The city comprehensive plan study guide talks about outside dining to spruce up downtown.

Mr. Bobby Jones expressed that he is against this request. He and Butch Smith have recently purchased a store front in this area for their office space. There is already limited parking. He said that he has a serious problem with using public property for a private use and profit. Mr. Jones suggested that Mr. Franklin consider using the back of the building. This would accommodate more tables. He said that next they will be asking for an alcohol license. Mr. Jones said that he would not like to see alcohol served in that public area and the steps there are dangerous for people who have been drinking. He informed council that if they approve this request it will open up a can of worms for other businesses to expand in the street.

Mr. Greg Strickland was present at the hearing to oppose the request on behalf of the Masonic Lodge, which owns property next door. He said that they have a problem with the parking issue. They also have a problem if they request to serve alcohol. He agreed with Mr. Jones that if you allow one business to expand into the streets then the other businesses should have the same rights.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Boyd called for any further comments. After hearing none, he closed the hearing at 5:26 p.m.

Angie Conner, City Clerk