

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 06-03

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT CONCERNING the Queen Anne's County Planning Commission; the Conduct of Its Meetings and the Employment of Consultants.

FOR THE PURPOSE of providing the number and conduct of meetings of the Queen Anne's County Planning Commission; requiring the acceptance of public comments at certain time and on certain matters and requiring that the Planning Commission contract with certain consultants in the performance of its functions.

BY Repealing and Readopting Chapter 18, Section 18:1-109 E. with amendments and adopting a new Chapter 18, Section 18:1-109 G. of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County (1996 Ed.).

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that Section 18:1-109 E. of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County be repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

Part 7 Administration, Enforcement and Special Procedures
ARTICLE XXII General and Administrative Provisions

'18:1-109. Planning Commission.

...

E. Meetings.

(1) The Commission shall:

(a) Hold at least one two regularly scheduled meetings each per month;

1. One meeting shall deal exclusively with project approvals and related matters; the other exclusively with planning studies, ordinance and map amendments and related matters;

2. All meetings with begin at 6 pm;
3. All meetings will be video recorded and later broadcast on the County's cable channel.

(2) All proposals to be presented to the Planning Commission, together with staff review comments shall be on display and available for public inspection in the Planning Commission meeting room for the entire business day proceeding a meeting.

(3) During Planning Commission meetings, the meeting space shall be configured and equipped so that all presentations can be seen and heard as well by the public as by the Planning Commissioners. The meeting space shall be equipped with adequate sound amplification and a method of lighting control to facilitate viewing projected graphics.

(4) Staff and applicants shall be encouraged to utilize electronic projection and color illustrations and plans for their presentations.

(5) Members of the public, interested person, and citizen groups shall be given the following opportunities to be heard during Planning Commission meetings subject to the detail Rules of the Commission;

- (a) During a "press and public comment period" at the beginning and end of each meeting on any matter related to planning and development in the county;
- (b) During the "hearing" portion of any and all matters before the Commission on the matter at hand;
- (c) During a "required public hearing" which the Commission is specifically required to hold.

When time limits are imposed, a representative spokesperson of a recognized citizen group will be allotted three times the time allotted to an individual person.

- (c) Adopt rules for transactions of business; and
- (d) Keep a record of its resolutions, transactions,

findings, and determinations that shall be made available to the public.

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SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that a new Section 18:1-109 G. of the Code of Public Local Laws be adopted to read as follows:

G. Commission Consultants

(1) Pursuant to the authority conferred by Article 66B, '3.04(b), the Planning Commission shall contract with the following special consultants to assist the Commission with its work, provided that the County Commissioners appropriate sufficient funds for these purposes;

- (a) A registered architect;
- (b) A registered landscape architect;
- (c) A registered surveyor with expertise in the delineation of water boundaries.

SECTION III

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on the forty-sixth day following its passage.

INTRODUCED BY: Gene Ransom

DATE: March 21, 2006

PUBLIC HEARING HELD: April 18, 2006 @ 7:30 p.m.

VOTE: 1 Yea 3 Nay (Commissioner Koval abstained)

DATE OF ADOPTION: Failed