

**Town of Amherst  
Planning Commission Minutes  
December 4, 2019**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson June Driskill in the Council Chambers of Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street at 7:00 PM on December 4, 2019.

It was noted that one seat on the Planning Commission is vacant and that a quorum was present as indicated below:

P	June Driskill	P	William Jones
A	Kevin Belcher	P	Anne Webster Day
P	Ted Finney	P	Clifford Hart

Town Manager Sara Carter and Clerk of Council Vicki Hunt, in her capacity as Secretary to the Commission, were present.

The minutes from the November 5, 2019, Commission meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Jones, and carried 5-0-1 according to the following:

June Driskill	Aye	Clifford Hart	Aye
Kevin Belcher	Absent	Anne Webster Day	Aye
Ted Finney	Aye	William Jones	Aye

The Chair opened a duly advertised public hearing at 7:01 PM on a proposed amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Plan to change the designated land use for Tax Map parcels 96-4-A and 96-1-1-7, totaling 76+/- acres from Planned Development- Residential to Agricultural to allow a request for a conservation easement by Dave McCormack, that would, if approved by Town Council, allow land between the developed portion of the Mill Race subdivision and the Amherst Milling Company to be changed from planned development areas to conservation and would allow Mr. McCormack to complete a conservation easement process for the property.

Dave McCormack was present to speak on his request and to answer questions.

There being no one else present who wished to speak on the matter, the public hearing was closed at 7:07 PM.

After discussion, Mr. Jones made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Hart of a recommendation to Town Council for disapproval of the proposed amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Plan to change the designated land use for Tax Map parcels 96-4-A and 96-1-1-7, totaling 76+/- acres from Planned Development- Residential to Agricultural.

The motion carried 3-2-1 according to the following:

June Driskill	Aye	Clifford Hart	Aye
Kevin Belcher	Absent	Anne Webster Day	Nay
Ted Finney	Nay	William Jones	Aye

Town Manager Carter reported that the Town has received a request from McDonalds to consider allowance for an electronic sign which would require an amendment to Section 18.1-908.10 (6) of the Zoning Ordinance.

Mike Freeman, Owner of Freeman Enterprises, dba McDonalds of Amherst, was present to speak on his request and to answer questions.

Darren Fore from the Amherst County Planning Commission was also present.

By consensus, Town Manager Carter was instructed by the Commission to prepare a proposed amendment to Section 18.1-908.10(6) for consideration by the Commissioners at the next meeting.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Finney, seconded by Mr. Hart, and carried 5-0-1 the meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
June Driskill, Chairperson

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

FOR APPROVAL