



CITY OF BELLAIRE TEXAS
BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION
OCTOBER 22, 2014

Council Chamber

Regular Session

7:00 PM

7008 S. RICE AVENUE
BELLAIRE, TX 77401

I. REGULAR SESSION

A. Call to Order

Chairman Thurmond called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

B. Announcement of Quorum

Chairman Thurmond announced that a quorum was present, consisting of the following members:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Laura Thurmond	Chairman	Present	
Paul Katz	Commissioner	Present	
Burt Martin	Commissioner	Present	
Mike Baker	Commissioner	Present	
Danny Spencer	Vice Chairman	Present	
Lee Hampton	Commissioner	Present	
Charles Formica	Commissioner	Present	
Lee Cabello	Building Official	Present	
Ashley Parcus	Secretary	Present	

C. Rules for Public Comment

Chairman Thurmond mentioned that the Rules for Public Comment are listed on the agenda.

- 1. Sign up forms will be available at all Regular and Special meetings for registering the names of members of the Public who wish to either: i) speak on an agenda item, provided such items have not been the subject of a prior public hearing; or ii) make a general comment related to the Commission business. These forms will be given to the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting so that the person's name can be called to address the Commission at the appropriate time.**
- 2. Public Comments on agenda items will be made at the time an agenda item appears in the Order of Business and before the Commission's consideration of that item.**
- 3. Public Comments of a general nature shall be made at the time designated by the Order of Business.**

4. **All public comments shall be limited to six (6) minutes per speaker with extensions of two (2) minute increments as approved by a majority vote of Commission members present.**
5. **Public Comment at Workshop meetings will be allowed at the discretion of the Chair. Any comments will be limited as described in Article IV Sec 8.**

D. Approval or Correction of the Minutes

1. Building and Standards Commission - Regular Session - Sep 24, 2014 7:00 PM
Commissioner Formica made one minor spelling correction.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mike Baker, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Danny Spencer, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Thurmond, Katz, Martin, Baker, Spencer, Hampton, Formica

E. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

F. Report from Building Official

Mr. Cabello informed the Commission that the amendments to Chapter 9, including roll-off dumpsters and silt protection at job sites, as well as the moisture control requirements within residential crawlspaces were passed by City Council and will be effective starting October 30, 2014. He added that he will make certain that the builders are well informed of the changes that were made.

G. Reports of Committees and Communications

1. Communications to Commission members outside of posted meetings

There were no communications to report.

2. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

3. Reports from Staff other than the Building Official

There was no report from staff other than the Building Official.

H. Old Business

There was no old business.

I. New Business

1. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on the procedures for making recommendations to City Council.

Chairman Thurmond explained that this was born out of the process that the Commission went through when trying to pass the recent amendments to Chapter 9. She informed the new members of the Commission that there was

some resistance to sending the amendments forward to Council, as well as concern that the Commission should have had a forum for public comment on the proposed changes to the code. Chairman Thurmond stated that she would like to see some guidelines put in place that will make it easier to navigate that process, and mentioned that she would like for staff to do some research on what neighboring communities might have in place.

Commissioner Formica asked for clarification that there is no requirement for the Commission to hold a public forum on things that they consider.

Chairman Thurmond explained that adjustments to the ordinances that originate within the committee itself are not required to have a public forum.

Commissioner Formica felt that it would be beneficial to hold a public hearing for changes to the codes as well.

Commissioner Katz explained that although there are occasionally some minor adjustments made, most of the ordinances are governed by the International Building Codes that are adopted by the Building Official.

Chairman Thurmond pointed out that the proposed changes were discussed during many workshop sessions and regular meetings, which are all open to the public.

Vice Chairman Spencer added that creating a set of guidelines would help to set a timeline and hold all parties accountable.

Commissioner Hampton asked if this issue is unique to the Building and Standards Commission.

Mrs. Parcus explained that there is a general policy that all Boards and Commissions follow, however, there is nothing set in stone. She also mentioned that it depends on what type of recommendation the body is trying to make.

Chairman Thurmond pointed out that the Commission would not have the authority to apply the policy across the board, only to the procedures of the Building and Standards Commission. She suggested that the regular meeting in November be replaced by a workshop to further discuss this issue.

The Commission agreed on Wednesday, November 12th, at 4:00 PM.
(Requested by John McDonald, Development Services)

2. Discussion, consideration, and possible action regarding the Commission's involvement with Bellaire Recycles Fest.

Chairman Thurmond informed the Commission that the Bellaire Recycles Fest was going to take place on Saturday, November 1st from 10 am-2pm.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Spencer for the Commission to participate in Bellaire Recycles Fest.

Vote: The motion carried on a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Chairman Thurmond passed around a sheet with time slots for the Commissioners to sign up to participate.

3. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on the rescheduling of the November and December Building and Standards Commission Meetings.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Spencer and seconded by Commissioner Martin to reschedule the November and December meetings.

Chairman Thurmond mentioned that December is a hard month to get everyone together due to family obligations during the holidays and suggested that the December meeting be cancelled.

Amended Motion: An amended motion was then made by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Formica that the Commission hold a November 12th workshop in place of the regular November meeting and forego the December meeting, unless needed.

Vote: The motion carried on a unanimous vote of 7-0.

4. The Chair shall recognize any Commissioner who wishes to bring New Business to the attention of the Commission. Consideration of New Business shall be for the limited purpose of determining whether the matter is appropriate for inclusion on a future agenda of the Commission or referral to Staff for investigation.

There was no new business brought to the attention of the Commission.

J. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

K. Announcements & Comments by Commissioners

Commissioner Baker reminded everyone that voting was about to start, and encouraged the Commissioners to remind their friends and neighbors to participate.

L. Adjournment

Motion: a motion was made by Commissioner Formica and seconded by Vice Chairman Spencer to adjourn the regular meeting.

Vote: the motion carried on a unanimous vote of 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.