

**ACTION ITEM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

DATE February 19, 2008

TO Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey A Harvey
Director of Planning and Zoning

ISSUE Authorize a Public Hearing to Amend the County Code Regarding Certification of Planning Commissioners

RECOMMENDATION Approval

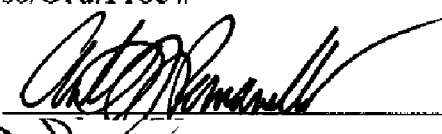
BUDGET IMPACT Account #100-8120-461-5540, Approximately \$1500 per member

ATTACHMENTS (3)

[1] Background Report [3] **Reso/Ord/Proc #** R08-131

[2] Proposed Ordinance O08-23 [] **Reso/Ord/Proc #**

[] [] **Reso/Ord/Proc #**

REVIEW [X] County Administrator's Office 

[X] Legal 

- [X] Consent Agenda [] Other Business [] Public Hearing
- [] Discussion Item [] Presentation [] Unfinished Business
- [] New Business

PRESENTATION BY: N/A

ELECTION DISTRICT N/A

BACKGROUND REPORT

At the Board's meeting on February 5, 2008, it was requested that all Planning Commissioners be certified once they are appointed. The Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia (CPEAV) currently offers a certification training program for Planning Commissioners and other interested parties that provides a basic foundation of planning law and history, while also providing the technical expertise to assist commissioners in making sound planning decisions. The certification program is offered several times each year. A certificate is awarded to those who successfully complete all requirements. Estimated costs for the certification include registration cost of \$450, lodging of approximately \$450, and per diem at \$64 a day. An additional cost of 50.5 cents per mile may also be reimbursed if the commissioner submits a claim. Proposed Resolution R08-131 authorizes advertisement for a public hearing which would be for the purposes of amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Section 2-22 of the Stafford County Code to require certification through the CPEAV, or such similar program, for any new Planning Commissioner appointed after January 2, 2008 and they have two years to comply.

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the _____ day of _____, 2008

MEMBERS

VOTE

George H. Schwartz, Chairman
M S "Joe" Brito, Vice Chairman
Harry E. Crisp, II
Mark Dudenhefer
Paul V. Milde III
Cord A. Sterling
Robert "Bob" Woodson

On motion of _____, seconded by _____, which carried by a vote of _____, the following was adopted

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 2,
ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SECTION 2-22 OF THE STAFFORD
COUNTY CODE REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF PLANNING
COMMISSION MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend Section 2-22 of the Stafford County Code entitled "Functions, powers and duties", and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that public necessity, convenience, general welfare, or good planning and zoning practices requires Planning Commissioners to be certified in a planning and land use program once they are appointed in order for the commissioners to fully understand and execute the functions, powers and duties prescribed by law, and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the benefits of organizations such as the Citizen's Planning Education Association of Virginia that provide ongoing training for Planning Commissioners through the Virginia Certified Commissioners Training Program and the benefit to Stafford County in having members of the Commission certified through such training program or such other comparable program as may be available, and

WHEREAS, the current County Code does not require that Planning Commissioners be certified, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the recommendation of the staff and the testimony at the public hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that public necessity, convenience, general welfare, or good planning and zoning practice requires adoption of such an ordinance,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the ____ day of _____, 2008 that Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-22 of the Stafford County Code be and it hereby is amended and reordained as follows, with all other portions remaining the same

Sec 2-22 Functions, powers and duties

The planning commission shall have the functions, powers and duties which are prescribed by state law In order that commission members are more fully able to understand and execute the functions, powers and duties prescribed, all commission members appointed for the first time after January 2, 2008 shall be required to begin the Virginia Certified Planning Commission Training Program administered by the Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia, or such other comparable certification program as may be available, and to successfully complete such program within 24 months of their appointment. Failure, without just cause, of any member to comply with this requirement shall constitute malfeasance in office and may be grounds for removal from the commission.

AJR JAH kb

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 19th day of February, 2008

MEMBERS

George H. Schwartz, Chairman
M S "Joe" Brito, Vice Chairman
Harry E. Crisp II
Mark Dudenhefer
Paul V. Milde III
Cord A. Sterling
Robert "Bob" Woodson

VOTE

On motion of _____, seconded by _____, which carried by a vote of _____, the following was adopted

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SECTION 2-22 OF THE STAFFORD COUNTY CODE REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend Section 2-22 of the Stafford County Code entitled "Functions, powers and duties", and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that public necessity, convenience, general welfare or good planning and zoning practice requires Planning Commissioners to be certified in a planning and land use program once they are appointed in order for the commissioners to fully understand and execute the functions, powers and duties prescribed by law, and

WHEREAS, the current County Code does not require that Planning Commissioners be certified, and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to consider public comment concerning the proposed changes,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 19th day of February, 2008 that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to advertise for a public hearing for the purpose of amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Section 2-22 of the Stafford County Code

AJR JAH kb