

Town of Ulster
Zoning Board of Appeals
November 6, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Ulster Zoning Board of Appeals was held at the Town of Ulster Town Hall on November 6, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.

Present:

John Crispell-Chairman
George Carlson
Elizabeth Kyriacou
Robert Porter

Mr. Crispell stated the minutes of the October meeting will be approved next month.

Mr. Kovacs stated the Board approved a variance for Volkswagen of Kingston for a 30' freestanding sign. Since the meeting the Supervisor spoke to the representative for Volkswagen (Mr. Spada) and Volkswagen has decided to place a 20' sign on the parcel. The architect has written a letter stating a 20' sign has been ordered. Mr. Kovacs stated it would be in the best interest of the Board to formally rescind the variance.

Action: A motion to rescind the variance for a 30' sign for Volkswagen of Kingston was made by Mr. Carlson with a second from Mrs. Kyriacou. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Carlson: yes
Mrs. Kyriacou: yes
Mr. Crispell: yes
Mr. Porter: No

Mr. Porter stated that he documented the height of the sign throughout the process. No Planning Board members came to the Public Hearing to voice their opinion but a letter was sent trying to convince the Board to vote against the signage yet the Planning Board and Planner are silent on the Midas sign that is "as tall as a Texas oil well" and should be removed. Mr. Porter went on stating the "Kings Mall sign is almost as tall as the Pyramids of Giza and you still cannot read it. Volkswagen has been around a long time and has invested in the Town of Ulster; and now they are dragged through the hoops for a sign. Mr. Porter stated he understands that there is a Comprehensive Plan but at times you have to be reasonable about some sites. "We do not have presidents buried in our town". "If the Town acts like Kingston did in the 70's we will be driving out businesses and we will be a ghost town in 15 years".

Mrs. Kyriacou agreed with Mr. Porter stating that she is on the Board to help out the Town and its businesses. She is not on the Board to play games and feels as if someone

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was going behind the Board's back to change their decision. Mrs. Kyriacou would like to know why the applicant changed their mind.

Mr. Crispell stated the only reason he was voting to rescind was because it is what the applicant wants. Mr. Crispell stated he does not feel that monument signs are not always the right choice. Ulster Avenue is congested and it is not always easy to read monument. He put himself in a position of someone who is not familiar with the town and with the way the traffic flows on Ulster Avenue and monument sign cannot always be read and can be dangerous.

Mr. Carlson stated that he too feels monument signs are not always the correct choice as they are harder to read and you sometimes go by the business before you see the signage. He would like to see the businesses of the Town to prosper and he is on the Board help the businesses of the Town.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carlson with a second from Mrs. Kyriacou all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary O'Bryan-Secreto
Zoning Board Secretary