

PUBLIC HEARING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
February 27, 2017
5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Scott Stalnaker, Billy Retterbush, Eric Gaither.

STAFF PRESENT: Henry Yawn, Jackie Jordan, Chief Edwards, Peter Schultz, John Reynolds.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Acree, Judy Singletary, John Black, Jr.

The public hearing was called to order by Henry Yawn for the request for a special exception for a funeral home on the property located at 202 Tifton Road which is zoned RP (Residential Professional). Michael Acree introduced himself as owner/manager of Acree Mortuary in Fitzgerald. He stated his request for a special exception and interest of putting a funeral home in the building owned by Judy Singletary at 202 Tifton Road. He explained it would not have a crematory but would be a general mortuary for viewings and making arrangements. He explained the Secretary of State requirements of room for a minimum number of caskets, an embalming room, and a small chapel/viewing area. Scott Stalnaker asked for documentation of the state requirements and expressed his concern of its location on a curve and on a state highway. Scott also asked how many cars can be parked there at one time and how many he may normally anticipate. Mr. Acree said most services would be held at a local church and thinks cars would range from two (2) to fifteen (15) at any given time. He said Mrs. Singletary owns 3.9 acres across the street and gave her permission for them to use it for additional parking if needed. Scott asked if the State might have a problem with parking being across the road on a State highway. Mr. Acree said he did not know about City code but the State's requirements are more about room for a minimum of thirty (30) individuals and to have room for at least eight (8) caskets but no specifications on parking. Scott asked about checking with the Department of Transportation (DOT) with it being a State highway. Billy Retterbush asked how many cars can be parked on the property at one time. Mr. Acree said when he met with the planning

commission, he had drawn out and measured that fifteen (15) cars could be parked on that property not including the space next to the building that would be used for the hearse and another funeral home vehicle. Scott expressed concern about the entry/exit. Judy Singletary said he could use the entry/exits on the property they own behind it on Dogwood. Scott asked about the planning commission's response. Mr. Henry said they passed it and turned it over to the City Council for approval. He said their questions were concerning the waste regarding sewage treatment, crossing the State highway, the large ditch on that location and the layout of the building and its square footage. Scott requested a copy of the layout as presented to the planning commission and said he did not think the sewage would be an issue because of the required back flow preventer. Billy asked John Reynolds about regulations on the waste. John said he tried to contact EPD but was not able to speak to anyone. He said he spoke with another funeral home and they spoke about the back flow preventer. Mr. Yawn said all the City is responsible for is whether or not to approve the special exception in zoning. Chief Edwards was asked about stopping the flow of traffic on a State highway and he replied it could only be done for a limited amount of time providing the person doing it has proper dress to direct traffic and if it were going to be more than thirty (30) minutes, they would have to have permission from the DOT.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Mayor Michael Richbourg

Alderman Eric Gaither

Alderwoman Mellisa Watson

Alderman Antonio Carter

Alderman Billy Retterbush

Alderman Scott Stalnaker

Alderman Walter Steward

ATTEST:

Jackie Jordan, City Clerk