

**Borough of Canonsburg**

Zoning Hearing Board

October 6th, 2020

6:30 pm

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Pihakis at 6:30 PM

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call:**

Mr. Manuel Pihakis, Chairman - Present

Mrs. Carmina V. Vitullo - Absent

Mr. Tony Trona - Present

Ms. Holly Stabile, Solicitor - Present

Mr. Josh Smith, Zoning Officer - Present

**4. Old Business:**

None.

**5. New Business**

Robert Aiello, Managing Partner of OmniSite Media explained why the variance was requested to allow them to change the time to between 5 and 8 seconds instead of the 30 seconds required by the Canonsburg Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Aiello explained that 5 seconds is the industry standard, that most municipalities usually allow a duration between 5 and 10 seconds and the other electronic billboards in the area are changing every 8 seconds.

Mrs. Vitullo inquired about the size variance in which Mr. Aiello explained that they were asking for the size to be 14' x 48', whereas the ordinance states the sign shall be no larger than 20'x15'. He also stated that the other billboards in the surrounding area are also 14'x48', so it would all be uniform.

Mr. Pihakis asked about the path being created to reach the sign and asked if it would be maintained by the company. Mr. Aiello explained that they would need to clear a path at least 8' wide to fit a backhoe to be able to install the footer for the foundation and the sign itself and that the ordinance states that any trees of a certain size that were removed must be replaced elsewhere on the property and that they are happy to do so.

Mrs. Vitullo then asked how the changes to the landscape would affect the area in regards to snow removal and stormwater runoff. Mr. Aiello explained that that would be taken into consideration and a site plan would be prepared in time for the building permit process.

Ms. Stabile asked if anyone knew why the Borough made these changes to the zoning ordinance when it was updated in 2016. Mr. Smith explained that the Borough is in the process of updating the ordinance again and that when the draft ordinance is ready for review, that it will be provided to the members of the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Smith went on to explain that everything that the applicant is asking for is within state regulations.

Mrs. Vitullo asked why the applicant was asking for a variance to make the speed 5 seconds when the PennDot standard was 8 seconds, Mr. Aiello explained that he simply inputted that on the application as it was the shortest allowed time but would be satisfied with 8 seconds. Mrs. Vitullo explained that driving on the highway, it can be hard to see an advertisement when it changes quickly, Mr. Smith explained that the calculation for speed is based off of the speed limit and size of the sign (visibility).

**Motion to approve variances to change message interval from 30 seconds to 8 seconds (consistent with PennDot standards) and change the sign face dimensions from 20'x15' to 14'x48'.**

Mrs. Vitullo made a motion to approve variances to change message interval from 30 seconds to 8 seconds (consistent with PennDot standards) and change the sign face dimensions from 20'x15' to 14'x48'. Seconded by Mr. Trona. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **7. Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Submitted by:  
Callie Munch