

# MONROE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

March 4, 2021

7:30 p.m.

The regular scheduled meeting of the Monroe County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Carlyle Mueller. Members present were James Agne, Tim Berg, Laurie Brown, Karin Callis, Dan Davis, Dave Glosecki, Joann Hartman, Dale Haudrich, Jane Kolmer, Carlyle Mueller, Charles Pittman, Robert Schlegel, and Walter Wetzel. Ex-Officio Members present were Chris Voelker and George Green.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion Joann Hartman with the addition of the Karin Callis conducting the election and the meeting turned over to her for that portion. The second correction is the spelling of Dan Davis in number 9 of the Meyer petition, second Walter Wetzel. Voice vote – all aye.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Petition for: Variance for exterior sign                      **Current Zoning:        B-2 (Highway Business)**  
Petition by: Jedd LLC (Trost Plastics)  
Located at: 8610 Hanover Industrial Drive  
PIN: 07-02-249-005  
Fee: \$200-

## Documents Reviewed:

### 1. Letter of Intent:

Trost Plastics and Summit Sign request a variance for exterior signs to be added to the building/property located at 8610 Hanover Industrial Dr, Columbia, IL 62236. Currently, there is an existing digital messagesign on a pole along Route 3. The pole sign with the digital message board does not currently have the business name “Trost Plastics” associated with it. The requested/proposed sign would relate the messages being displayed to Trost Plastics. We feel this is important for the business.

The proposed sign would attached to the top of the existing digital sign. It would add 16 square feet to the existing sign making a total of 48 square feet in overall sign area. Thank you for your consideration.

### 2. Health Department: No Comment

### 3. Soil and Water Conservation Report: No Comment

4. Effect on Comprehensive Plan: Minimal

5. Effect proposal would have on health, welfare, safety, morals & comfort of surrounding area: Minimal

6. Effect on schools, traffic, streets, shopping, public utilities and adjacent properties:

From Aaron Metzger, County Engineer

I have no comment on the proposed variance. I did confer with IDOT, their response:

“The sign is not an issue as it is an on-premise sign that does not require a permit from the Department”

7. Present Use of Property: Commercial

8. Comments:

- Andy Hrdlicka present on behalf of Trost Plastics and Summit Signs & Graphics.
- Adam Garner works for him.
- Andy Hrdlicka – When coming from the north side of the building on Route 3, it is difficult to see who the digital sign belongs to. They want to put “Trost Plastic” on top of the digital message board. Trost Plastic currently isn’t on the digital sign. The addition would be 2 feet tall and matches the width of the sign, about 8 feet.
- Dale Haudrich – asked if you could put the name on the digital message board.
- Andy Hrdlicka – It would take up space from the message they are trying to say. The key is to not put too many words together at a time to get the message across. With Trost Plastic on top you will know who it is.
- Dan Davis – asked why they need a variance.
- Chris Voelker – in the code there can be no more than 150 square footage of signage. The current digital one is 5 x 10 and what is on the building is 100 square feet. That puts them at the 150. It is the combination of the two that counts.
- Dan Davis – So the difference between them and Sonnenberg is because Trost Plastics has their name on the building? He also asked if the sign on the building is lit up.
- Andy Hrdlicka – He doesn’t believe so. Trost Plastic will be illuminated, but not digital.
- Laurie Brown – So this addition will be 16 square feet
- Andy Hrdlicka – yes

- Dan Davis – Sonnenberg’s set up is about the same. Name on the top and the digital board below.
- Karin Callis – asked how much over the 150 square footage will they be.
- Chris Voelker – approximately 16 feet
- James Agne – Well under the 150 square feet without the sign on the building. Believes the sign on the building looks more professional than making a sign bigger and bigger.
- Andy Hrdlicka – Basically it is to help put two and two together quicker, so people know that the digital sign is for Trost Plastic. He believes he can help their business.
- James Agne – When you start getting multiple signs flashing, it is a distraction.
- Chris Voelker – It can not flash. It can only change every so many seconds.
- Dan Davis – Aaron Metzger could not make it, but he wanted to say that IDOT or any other departments have no comments.
- Charles Pittman – So at night the Trost Plastic sign isn’t lit up, so half of the day you can not see Trost Plastic.
- Carlyle Mueller – When you are coming from Columbia, you can’t see the sign on the building. Other concern is the sign on the top. He wouldn’t want to see anything flash or change. It would have to be in sync with the bottom.
- Andy Hrdlicka – The Trost Plastic will be a light box. It will not change.
- Carlyle Mueller – His opinion is that Trost Plastic and Sonnenberg have the most effective signs. You can actually read what is on them.
- James Agne – What is the total height of the sign going to be now? (From the ground)
- Andy Hrdlicka – Didn’t have it on the plan
- Chris Voelker – It is raising it two feet. The new sign will be 6 x 8, plus the pole.
- May actually only be 48 total square feet.

9. Motion by Dan Davis to allow for the addition of two feet, lighted, nonmoving to the top of the existing sign, with the same with. Second by Laurie Brown. Yes -13, no-0. Motion Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

TREASURER’S REPORT: No Report

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT:

(Chris Voelker) In the month of February 2021, there were 20 permits (7 single family dwellings) Fees collected for the building permits were \$7,530.00, Inspections \$6,565.00, Electrical Permits \$195.00, Electrical License Renewals \$625.00, and Filing Fees 200.00. Total fees collected for the month of February 2021 was \$15,115.00.

Motion Tim Berg, second Joann Hartman to approve Zoning Officer's Report. All aye by voice vote.

ROAD REPORT: No Report

COMMISSIONERS REPORT: No Report

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE: No Report

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE: No Report

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No Report

ADJOURNMENT: James Agne made a motion to adjourn, second by Walter Wetzel, all aye by voice vote.