

MINUTES
VONORE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
February 7, 2017

Members Present

Allen Cansler, Chair
Bob Lovingood, Mayor
Harold Davis
Tom Sundstrom

Members Absent

Mike Garren, Sec.
Jennifer Wiggins

Others Present

Ruth Viergutz Hawk, Planner
Greg Altum, The Buzz
Robert Keenan

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cansler called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the minutes of December 6, 2016. Mayor Lovingood seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING ON REQUEST OF INTERPRETATION OF THE VONORE ZONING ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 6, SECTION 11-603. CUSTOMARY HOME OCCUPATIONS, AS TO WHETHER THE MANUFACTURE AND SELLING OF FIREARMS IS A SIMILAR USE TO THE USES EXPRESSLY ALLOWED AS HOME OCCUPATIONS (Robert Keenan, Applicant)

Staff presented the request and also reviewed the customary home occupations section of the Zoning Ordinance. A general discussion followed.

In summary, Mr. Keenan lives at 155 Fowler Street and is applying to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) for a federal Firearms Dealer License to sell and manufacture firearms. His long term plan is to open a store front in the Vonore area, but in order for him to receive inventory at his residence for his future endeavor, he needs the permit. His intent is to acquire a small business loan so that he can open the store front, but he cannot get the loan without the license. Initially Mr. Keenan will primarily be doing background checks on customers who have purchased firearms directly from manufacturers. The manufacturers will send the firearms to Mr. Keenan and he will issue the firearm once the customer is cleared. Mr. Keenan will primarily be acting as the middle man. Per ATF guidelines, a manufacturing permit is needed if Mr. Keenan makes any modifications to a firearm, such as adding a scope to a rifle. Under the ATF regulations, the manufacturing of firearms is the assembly of firearms. Mr. Keenan stated he would not be selling any ammunition.

Mayor Lovingood made a motion that the manufacture and selling of firearms is a similar use to the uses expressly allowed as home occupations, particularly craftsman and being a service occupation. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-1 with Commissioner Sundstrom casting the dissenting vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Davis moved to adjourn. Mayor Lovingood seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Secretary

Date