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3- Minute limit)

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Jan. 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes

None

Chair Black: Outlined presentation procedure.

ROLL CALL

Heather Balas. (A quorum was present)

# Village of Corrales

Planning & Zoning Department

4324 Corrales Road, Corrales, New Mexico 87048 Phone: (505) 897-0502 / Fax: (505) 897-7217

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, 6:30 PM

Location of Meeting: Council Chambers in-person, or via zoom teleconference

**MEETING MINUTES** 

Present: Mary Chappelle, Mick Harper, Melissa Morris, Jerry Stermer, Rob Black, Elizabeth Marshall,

Move to approve: Heather Balas, Second: Jerry Stermer. Vote, Yes: Mary Chappelle, Mick Harper,

Move to approve: Melissa Morris, Second: Elizabeth Marshall. Vote, Yes: Mary Chappelle, Mick

Harper, Melissa Morris, Jerry Stermer, Rob Black, Elizabeth Marshall, Heather Balas. (unanimous)

Melissa Morris, Jerry Stermer, Rob Black, Elizabeth Marshall, Heather Balas. (unanimous)

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P&Z Commission Minutes

for February 21, 2024 meeting

# Page 1 of 9

Planning and Zoning Administrator Stout (PZA): This is a request to extend the time period to submit

a Final Plat by another 12 months. (Explained the applicants need more time to construct the road, and

that the extension is allowed by Corrales Code. Explained the requirements for the Commission to grant

Request for an extension of time to submit a Final Plat. Preliminary Plat SUB 23-03 was approved

CORRALEÑOS PUBLIC FORUM (Comment on items not otherwise on Agenda -

by the Commission in February of 2023. This will ultimately create Lots 1-6 of Novo Farm Subdivision.

(An existing home on the property has a site address of 340 Pueblito Road.) A condition of approval was that the private roadway be constructed prior to submittal of Final Plat. Preliminary Plats normally expire after one year. Applicants Community Sciences Corporation are requesting a 12-month extension to

submit Final Plat per Village Code Section 18-86 (g) (1-4).

an extension. Requested a condition that the private roadway be completed, with certified as-built

- provided to the Village, before the extension expires, if extension is granted. All should be done 40 days before the February 19, 2025 Planning and Zoning Commission.)
- 49 Tom Patrick Community Sciences Corporation, 4481 Corrales Road (applicant's agent, sworn):
- We're here to ask for a one-year extension. (Explained there have been delays in construction. Wanted to
- reassure the Commissioners that the construction plans are in place, along with a signed contract for
- 52 construction with Custom Grading by the applicants Gamma Development and Beta Investments.)
- Custom Grading expects to begin construction within several weeks, and Community Sciences is ready to do the construction staking.
- 55 Chair Black: Any public comment on this item? Seeing none, we'll close public comment.
- 56 Commissioner Stermer: There's no public harm that we can anticipate happening which would be
- 57 consistent with approval. I would move that we approve the request to extend the time period for SUB 23-
- 58 03, the Novo Farm subdivision preliminary plat, that extension of time would provide the applicant
- opportunity to construct this private roadway and provide a certified as-built as was requested a year ago.
- 60 **Chair Black:** Could I ask for a date of January 9th as the date for all items to be completed? That gives as recommended by staff the 40-day window.
  - **Commissioner Stermer:** (agreed to amendment of his motion.)

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Move to approve extension of time for SUB 23-03, finding request compliant with Code Section 18-86 (g) (1-4): Jerry Stermer, Second: Mary Chappelle. (as amended by Chair Black to provide a date certain of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for all items (road w/certified as-built/Final Plat submittal.) Vote, Yes: Mary Chappelle, Mick Harper, Melissa Morris, Jerry Stermer, Rob Black, Elizabeth Marshall, Heather Balas. (unanimous)

ZMA 24-01. (Zone Map Amendment) Applicant Joan Lewis, 5093 Corrales Rd requests Zone Map Amendment approval for 5093 Corrales Road (Lands of Adela W. C de Baca subdivision, Tract 2A). This property is located within the Corrales Road Commercial Area, and she is requesting it be rezoned Commercial. This 1.027-acre property is currently zoned A-1 Agricultural and Rural Residential and contains a residence. While future plans include short-term rentals, restaurant, and a residence, those uses will not be approved at this hearing. This approval, if granted, would only be for zoning change from residential to commercial. (Also requires subsequent approval by Village Council.)

PZA Stout: Ms. Lewis owns 5093 Corrales Road which is located on the southwest corner of Old Church Road and Corrales Rd. That lot is the northernmost lot eligible for commercial zoning west of Corrales Road. She also owns the lot to the immediate south (of the subject lot) that is already zoned commercial and is approved for 4 professional offices. (Explained relevant sections of the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to commercial uses and the zone change. Noted this application is only a zone change request (a Site Development Plan is not included). Asked applicant to provide an aerial photo showing potential future uses for property to be addressed with site development plan submittal. Noted if the Commission approves the zone change it will be forwarded to Council for approval. No uses will change now.)

Joan Lewis, 5903 Corrales Rd (applicant, sworn): We are currently looking at just changing it from residential to commercial. At some point we'll have to determine based on expert opinion from the architect who we've recently acquired (to determine) what is the best use of the lot. We don't have anything definite right now in mind. We're just trying to get the commercial zoning so that we can then proceed. And that will be a later Site Development Plan.

- 91 Chair Black: Any questions from the Commission at this point? Moving to public comment.
- 92 Paul Matthew, 5094 Corrales Rd. (public commenter, sworn): (Concerned that while commercial
- 200 zoning was good planning in the past it may not be today. Stated a lot of surrounding neighbors are
- oncerned about property to the south of the subject property as it does not meet ADA, commercial
- building codes, or fire codes. Would like neighbors to understand what is going to happen with both
- 96 properties prior to approval of commercial zoning.)
- 97 Chair Black: Any other public comments? Seeing none, we'll close public comment.

- 98 **Commissioner Stermer:** I'm confused a reference we heard to a previous property.
- 99 **PZA Stout:** The approval for the adjacent property to the south (5065 Corrales Rd.) was for a 4-office
- 100 complex and it was approved with conditions. Those were to show (on the site plan) all setbacks from the
- structure, show employee parking in the rear with parking and driveway dimensions and surface
- treatment, and remove a reference to "City of" Corrales regulations. I went on to state in a letter to the
- applicant back then, that "the Village is now in possession of this revised drawing sent by your architect
- today. The conditions stated by the Commission have been met and you are free to pursue construction
- permits for the project." Subsequently, a deck was built over the top of the ADA parking, blocking the
- space, and I have spoken to the applicants and their new architect about that. Those issues will have to be
- addressed on the adjacent property before any new uses are approved there.
- 108 Chair Black: Do you have a timeline on that application?
- 109 **PZA Stout:** Approved by this Commission on August 21st, 2019 for a 4-office complex, first floor.
- 110 **Commissioner Stermer:** So, this is 5065 Corrales Road you're talking about, what the gentleman was
- 111 referring to with his comments.
- 112 **PZA Stout:** Yes. The property you're looking at tonight only contains a three-bedroom residence. If the
- zone change occurs tonight with this Commission, and is subsequently approved by Council, before
- anything else could happen on subject lot, you would have to see a site development plan.
- 115 Commissioner Stermer: 5065 is now commercially zoned, but not used as a business?
- 116 PZA Stout: I would have the applicant answer that. I've seen "for lease" signs, but I have not seen cars
- 117 parked there.
- 118 Trish Dawson, 1 Dona Marta Ct. (applicant, sworn): I'm her attorney. When she originally purchased
- the property, the zoning was such that she could have used the 350 feet in front for commercial and the
- back for residential. After she purchased the property, the zoning laws changed in Corrales, she was no
- longer able to build a separate (home) in the back. The front building's an office. She opened a clinic
- there, she's a doctor, and what happened was it was the month of all the COVID restrictions. So right
- now, there is one tenant in the building and we hope to have more. But with all the things that have
- happened, we have had to go with whatever's happening in the world.
- 125 Chair Black: Just to clarify, you're talking about 5065 Corrales Rd.?
- 126 **Dawson:** Right.
- 127 Commissioner Stermer: And just so I'm clear on this. The is the (site) where the driveway doesn't
- provide enough width for turnaround and fire access.
- 129 **Dawson:** Well, actually the fire department did approve a turn around and did approve us using it to get
- our commercial there. What we would like to know, if it's in accordance with NMDOT and the Village,
- what we'd like to do because she bought the second property—the first property is only 70 feet wide.
- What we'd like to do if it meets standards, is put a large ingress/egress 24 feet wide between the two
- properties, so we don't even have that issue.
- 134 **Commissioner Stermer:** Now both properties are owned by the same person?
- 135 **Dawson:** They are both owned by Dr. Lewis.
- 136 Commissioner Stermer: If they were both commercial, some other proposal would come before us?
- Dawson: Yes, we would like to do something commercial with this lot and 5093.
- 138 Commissioner Stermer: And likely with (wider) access.
- 139 **Dawson:** Yes, so we only have one (entrance/exit) off Corrales Road as opposed to two now.
- 140 Commissioner Harper: I don't really understand the reference to Village of Corrales ordinances that
- have changed. Because my recollection is the site development plan presented for 5065 showed a
- driveway on the north side of between the building on 5065 and the north property line. And the width of
- that driveway was inadequate to provide (access) but the ordinances have been in place for a long time,
- requiring that this driveway be a minimum of 20 feet wide. That's so two cars can pass one another, one
- as large as an emergency vehicle, and nothing would prevent anyone from using a commercially zoned
- property for residential uses. Am I correct about that?
- 147 Dawson: Right.

- 148 Commissioner Harper: OK, so there's been no changes in the ordinances that prevent further
- development of 5065. It's merely a decision not to trim down the size of the building to provide adequate
- driveway width. Now I see where you're going, about having these two adjacent properties and maybe
- even combining the two properties into a single one down the road.
- 152 **Dawson:** Correct.
- 153 Commissioner Harper: These shaded areas on the color photograph are proposed future uses, right?
- 154 **Dawson:** Proposed.
- 155 Commissioner Harper: (Asked if short-term living units existed yet.)
- 156 Dawson: No.
- 157 Commissioner Harper: (Expressed concern that the drawing did not show adjoining properties and the
- structures on them.)
- 159 **PZA Stout:** (Stated future site development plan(s) will require showing any adjacent properties).
- 160 Commissioner Stermer, PZA Stout, Commissioner Marshall: (discussion about which properties
- surround the subject site are commercial or residential. PZA Stout noted that the subject property is the
- last property on the west side of Corrales Road that is in the Corrales Road commercial district. PZA
- 163 Stout noted some commercial properties were in existence in the area prior to Village incorporation.)
- 164 **Commissioner Stermer:** 5093 is not currently commercial?
- 165 **PZA Stout:** (Explained that properties in the commercial district were not automatically made
- 166 commercial, they had to apply for it, and default is residential.)
- 167 Chair Black: (to applicant) I would caution you to think about (your plans) going forward. I don't know
- how the vote will go today, but you have a lot of really intense uses that you've described. Restaurants,
- stores—those sorts of commercial uses in a very limited space would have to get approval from this
- 170 Commission and the Village. I caution you to think about that if there is an approval today. The
- 171 Commission would look very carefully as to what those uses are. And that's because there is such a
- 172 concern about the impact on a small space and the access in and out of Corrales Road.
- 173 Commissioner Morris: (The summary states) the access for 5093 is on Corrales Road. The summary
- also says there's no driveway access off old Church Road.
- 175 Chair Black, Commissioner Morris: (discussed access to subject property and property to the south.)
- 176 **Commissioner Morris:** They both currently each have access off Corrales Road.
- 177 **Chair Black:** That is my understanding. That is testimony.
- 178 Commissioner Balas: Given that the Commission will have the authority to review a Site Development
- Plan, and that we have stated our intention to review that site plan with care and our desire for the
- applicant to be cautious in their future application to us in terms of egress and need for fire lane, and that
- it is within the Village-approved commercial area and thus eligible for rezone, I move approval of the
- rezoning application ZMA 24-01.
- Public commenter (on zoom testified after motion to approve), Manuel C de Baca interrupted proceedings
- to ask to make comments. It was decided to let him comment as the motion and second had been made.
- The motion was tabled and the public commenter was allowed to speak.
- 186 Manuel C de Baca, 1186 Old Church Rd. (public commenter, sworn): (Concerned that 5065 Corrales
- 187 Rd.) on the state record indicates the property is residential. Stated that along the southern part of 5093,
- there's a ditch 10-foot ditch easement that runs all along that property dividing the two lots.)
- 189 Commissioner Balas: (asked for confirmation that 5065 Corrales Rd. was zoned commercial.)
- 190 **PZA Stout:** (Confirmed commercial zoning. Had recently found minutes from 2004 where rezoning had
- been approved there.)

- 192 Chair Black, Commissioner Morris, Commissioner Harper: (Discussion about commercial versus
- residential properties south of subject site.)
- Move to approve ZMA 24-01, finding it compliant with Code Section 18-48 (b) (1-8): Heather Balas,
- 196 Second: Melissa Morris. Vote, Yes: Mary Chappelle, Mick Harper, Melissa Morris, Jerry Stermer, Rob
- 197 Black, Elizabeth Marshall, Heather Balas, (unanimous)
- 198 Chair Black: You have approval; it can be appealed in the next 20 days.

**ZOC 24-02.** (Home Occupation). Applicant John Young of 411 Mockingbird Lane, Corrales, is requesting

Home Occupation permit approval to operate a supper club on land located at 4569 Corrales Road and

occupied by Mary/Pat Young. His business is called "Sandia Mountain Sauce Company". He would like to host up to 20 customers in an existing structure on site, one day a week, between 7pm – 9pm, April through

October. A portion of this property is zoned C – Commercial and a greater portion A-1 Agricultural and

205 Rural Residential. Most of the business activity will take place on the residentially zoned area.

PZA Stout: This is an application for a home occupation for a supper club on property owned by the applicant's mother. (Asked applicant if that was correct.)

John Young, 411 Mockingbird Ln. (applicant, sworn): Yes.

- PZA Stout: She has given permission in writing. (PZA explained the uses proposed on the lot. Stated that the driveway and up to just past the west end of the driveway are zoned Commercial but the area where
- the use will take place is zoned A-1, hence the home occupation application. Noted that the parking for
- the business use will occur on the portion of the lot with commercial zoning. Only a small office space in
- the home is going to be used for this home occupation. The area where customers will dine is noted as a
- 300 square foot accessory structure next to the greenhouse. (She noted that that structure is going to need
- a building permit.) Food will be prepared in the yellow food truck that is shown in a photo provided by
- the applicant. The food truck is stored at a separate location. The applicant attests there are no plans for
- 217 live or loud music in association with the Supper Club. There is a porta potty on site but under Village
- 218 Code can't be the business restroom. The applicant has stated via e-mail that guests would be allowed into
- 219 his mother's home for restroom facilities. He's noting the number of expected customers as between 11
- and 20, the dinners will take place one day a week from 7pm to 9pm April through October.) I did go to
- the site, there appears to be ample parking. This application as presented is substantially compliant with
- Village Code section 18-45 (c) which governs home occupations approved by this Commission.
- 223 Chair Black: As I look at the red outlined map and then the applicants map, where they are marked with

crosshairs is where the location of where dining would take place? Does that building exist?

- PZA Stout: It's partially built and it's going to need a building permit to be completed, but it's just north of the greenhouse on site.
- Young: (Stated the goal was a farm to table operation.) It will be served directly out of a certified food
- truck that is licensed and insured. There is insurance on the property as well. (Noted guests would not be on the property more than once a week, but there are likely to be several weeks during the season when
- 230 nothing happens due to other business commitments. Stated customers are contacted through Facebook
- with a menu and a limited number of people are allowed to sign up for the events. Noted the activity
- would be similar to catering an event at a private house in Corrales, except the location would not change.
- Applicant stated that he is also trying to create a commissary kitchen in the Village for local agriculture,
- canning, and food production.)
- 235 Commissioner Harper: It seems like quite a distance from the parking to the dining area here. Do you
- aim to meet your diners with a golf cart or something and run them back there? Or do you make a stroll
- through the farm part of the experience?
- Young: It's an all-inclusive experience, the parking is up front. I make everybody aware that this is a
- farm, there's a clear pathway to get back to the dining area. But you have to walk.
- 240 Commissioner Chappelle: So, you've already actually started doing this?
- Young: I've done a few of them, experimental, yes.
- 242 Commissioner Chappelle: And there's a picture with what looks like, say, a temporary enclosure.
- Young: Yes. That is a tent.
- 244 Commissioner Chappelle: But you're going to change that to a permanent building?
- Young: It just depends on what the building permit is going to require. If we need to stick to a tent we
- will. The temporary structure I had started doing is pallet walls on a frame and then a tarp would go on
- top of that. But if that's not going to work, we'll just go back to a tent. I just like being able to have the
- weight on there. We get wind.

- 249 Commissioner Chappelle: When you did (dinners) before, did you receive any complaints from
- 250 neighbors?
- Young: No, ma'am. Nobody even knew we were doing it.
- 252 **Commissioner Morris:** (Had a question about the location of the residence.)
- 253 Young: (Showed location on drawing.) The red outlined property is the one in question. Where it gets
- really skinny, that's on the Corrales Road side, the driveway, then it widens out. The first building on that
- property is my mother's residence. The second building plainly there is the greenhouse. (Explained
- location of buildings and uses on surrounding properties, many commercial.)
- 257 Commissioner Morris: Staff, there's no requirement that the (dining area) have its own bathroom?
- 258 PZA Stout: That's probably up to the Department of Health. I think they're going to want some type of
- 259 hand washing and restroom facilities. I've owned restaurants and they had bathrooms inside them. I don't
- 260 know in this situation what the health department would ask for.
- 261 Chair Black, Commissioner Morris and applicant: (Discussion about where the dining will take place
- and where the restroom is.)
- John Young: There's a bathroom at the back side of the residence separate from her restroom.
- 264 Commissioner Morris: (Questioned if there were any Village ordinances related to restrooms in
- restaurants.)
- 266 Commissioner Harper: Not that we enforce.
- Young: If we were doing a farm dinner at Wagner's farm, they would have to walk somewhere too.
- 268 Commissioner Harper: If we approve this home occupation application—the use of this property for this
- purpose will not commence until you have what, exactly?
- 270 **PZA Stout:** Our in-house building official will issue a certificate of occupancy at the end of the building
- permitting process. Fire inspection, then the business license.
- 272 Commissioner Harper: So, if we formulate a motion, we should make it a conditional motion
- referencing the future approval.
- 274 Commissioner Marshall: What hours are you planning on operating?
- Young: 7 till 9 (pm), I think is what I put on the letter, no later than 9pm.
- 276 Chair Black: Is there someone online who would like to provide public comment? I see a hand raised.
- 277 Kathy Newman, 4543 Corrales Rd. (public commenter, sworn): (Asked where the food truck would
- be parked and how it would get there.)
- 279 Chair Black: So, ma'am, during public comment, we don't have a back and forth.
- Newman: OK. The other comment I have is if the people coming to the supper club enter from Corrales
- Road and not from the ditch. That's our concern.
- 282 Chair Black: Any questions that the Commissioners would like to ask or discuss? If the applicant could
- please come up, I do want to follow up. I think the public comment raised a couple of interesting issues.
- Young: All customers will come in from Corrales Road only, and I can work with my neighbors so they
- are assured that our back gate at that property can be locked at the time. The food truck will enter from
- 286 Corrales Road. I don't know if you can see on that map specifically, but there is a way that I can enter
- from Corrales Road, drive alongside the residence, get all the way back to the area where the dining will
- occur. And then whenever the dining experience is done, it will leave.
- 289 Chair Black: Where would the truck be parked?
- 290 Young: On the east side of that greenhouse is where I will be parking.
- 291 Chair Black: So kind of between the greenhouse and that other structure.
- 292 Young: Yes.
- 293 **Commissioner Stermer:** I'm going to recuse myself. (has attended one of the dinners.)
- 294 Commissioner Chappelle: I'd like to note it's my understanding that vehicles are not allowed on the
- 295 ditch anyway by MRGCD. So unless that's your only ingress and egress to the property, your customers
- shouldn't be on there.
- 297 Young: Explained he believes the neighbor is concerned about pedestrians and bicycles.
- 298 Commissioner Morris: I move that we approve ZOC 24-02, it appears that the use of the dwelling unit
- for the home occupation shall be clearly incidental and subordinate to its use for residential purposes. Not

more than 25% of the floor area and not more than 2000 square feet in an accessory building shall be used. That no more than one person other than residents of the premises, shall be engaged in all home occupations at any one time on the premises in A-1 zoned lots. No equipment or process should be used which creates noise, vibration, glare, fumes, noxious odors, or other nuisances. And that there are no plans for music or any for live or loud music.

Move to approve: Melissa Morris, Second: Heather Balas. Vote, Yes: Mary Chappelle, Mick Harper, Melissa Morris, Rob Black, Elizabeth Marshall, Heather Balas. (unanimous) (Jerry Stermer recused.)

Chair Black: All right, Sir. You have your approval. It can be appealed within 20 days. Laurie will follow up with you with next steps.

Commissioner Morris: (Made a suggestion that applicants put compass directions on their maps.)

### VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Commission discussion regarding potential recommendations to Council related to Code Section 18-166, *Terrains and Stormwater Management*.

**PZA Stout:** (Introduced the subject and read portions of the text below and discussed proposed revision. The goal of the amendment is to clarify the variance allowances, and what specifically can be applied for. The revisions do not change policy, merely clarify the interpretation. **Section 18-164 (c) (2) (c)**.) **Note:** The Following is the Section of Code under consideration. (numbers in paragraph in italics and parentheses are not part of code but supplied for purposes of clarity) and subject sentences underlined.

c. Natural slopes greater than fifteen percent (15%) shall remain undisturbed. (1) A variance may be granted, upon application, for isolated occurrences such as arroyo crossings and other limited areas with a natural slope greater than fifteen percent (15%), where the disturbance does not exceed one thousand (1,000) square feet in total. (2) If the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Village that strict enforcement of this provision would prohibit access to the lot or placement of utilities, the Commission may grant a variance from the terms of this Subsection 18-164 (c) (2) (c). The Commission may seek the advice of the Village Engineer in considering a request for variance under this subsection but shall not be bound or limited by such advice. (3) This variance provision shall apply solely to the construction of streets, roadways, driveways, drainage ways, and utility placement and is not intended to permit development on natural slopes exceeding fifteen percent (15%).

**PZA Stout**: It now appears an applicant can ask for *any* amount of slope over 15% rather than the limit of 1,000 square feet that was intended. This was challenged a few years ago, by someone who was requesting more than 14-thousand square feet of slope over 15%. By rearranging the sentences, it fixes the problem.

- c. Natural slopes greater than 15% shall remain undisturbed. (Then new section):
- d. (1) If the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Village that the strict enforcement of this provision would prohibit access to the lot or placement of utilities, the Commission may grant a variance from the terms of this subsection 18-164 (2) (c).
- (2) A variance may be granted, upon application, for isolated occurrences such as arroyo crossings, and
   other limited areas with a natural slope greater than 15% where the disturbance does not exceed 1,000
   square feet in total. The Commission may seek the advice of the Village Engineer in considering a
   request for variance under this subsection, but shall not be bound or limited by such advice. (3) This
   variance provision shall apply solely to the construction of streets, roadways, driveways, drainage ways,

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- and utility placement and is not intended to permit development on natural slopes exceeding fifteen
- 351 percent (15%).
- Remainder of the amended section would be renumbered.
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- Commissioner Chappelle: My concern is when you say isolated occurrences, is that what the term was?
- 355 **PZA Stout:** That's in Code now.
- 356 Commissioner Chappelle: So isolated occurrences are specifically defined then by arroyo etc. I'm
- wondering if the isolated occurrence is per person, per property.
- 358 **PZA Stout:** Per lot. (Noted the variance cannot be used to create a building pad site.)
- 359 Commissioner Chappelle: Concerned that term could be used to ask for multiple variances on one
- property as each request could be considered an isolated occurrence.
- 361 **PZA Stout:** We've always only allowed one per lot. I don't know if anyone's ever tried.
- 362 **Commissioner Chappelle:** But somewhere in the Code, it should say for one lot.
- 363 Chair Black: If you added that after 1000 square feet in total per lot.
- Commissioner Harper: Ordinance needs to state no variance under this (section) shall exceed 1000
- 365 square feet in the second sentence.
- 366 Chair Black: You had mentioned that there was a legal opinion on this.
- 367 **PZA Stout:** (Stated an applicant had argued if they demonstrate to the Commission a Variance is
- necessary, they can go as large as needed to build. PZA researched previous variances, and none
- exceeded 1,000 square feet. Spoke with Village attorney at the time, and he agreed swapping the two
- sentences should eliminate the argument that the 1,000 square feet can be exceeded.)
- 371 Commissioner Morris: Stated existing language for variance was limiting, but saw where "to permit
- development" is vague.
- 373 **PZA Stout:** Yes, I have something in here about that. An explanation of what "development" means in
- 374 this particular instance.
- 375 Commissioner Morris: You suggest "not intended to create a house/accessory structure pad site", right?
- 376 **PZA Stout:** I put that out there for your consideration because the word development can mean a lot of
- different things. In this case, the intent is only for a driveway, or retaining wall—not in lieu of the
- 378 minimum 2,000 square feet, under 15% slope, that already should exist for a future house.
- 379 Commissioner Morris: But it doesn't say that. Recommended language that the variance provision is not
- intended to create a house, accessory structure (area).
- 381 Chair Black: For or allow. (to replace word intended)
- 382 Commissioner Stermer: I like the very specific words, house, accessory structure, pad site.
- 383 **PZA Stout:** Elsewhere in Village code it states very clearly that any given lot must have a 2,000 square
- foot area (pad site for a home). It must already exist.
- 385 Commissioner Stermer: The variance should not allow those things, and we should say so.
- 386 Chair Black: On your first issue. The final sentence of the paragraph, the variance provision shall apply
- solely to the construction of streets, roadways, driveways, drainage ways and utility placements. That's
- limiting how we can give a variance. Not intended to allow a house, accessory structure, (or) pad site on
- natural slopes exceeding 15%. Add the language "and does not exceed 1,000 square feet in total".
- 390 Commissioner Balas: (Asked for clarification of the 1,000 square feet for variance.)
- 391 **PZA Stout:** I do like, that the sentence that says the applicant will demonstrate to the satisfaction of the
- Village that strict enforcement of the "don't touch over 15%" provision would prohibit access to the lot or
- 393 placement of utilities. Otherwise, any number of reasons could be requested.
- 394 Chair Black: Restated his understanding of the requested change.
- 395 Commissioner Chappelle: (Prefers when code reads you can get this variance if you meet A, B, C.) We
- have it in the home occupation application. I think if this was laid out that way it would be clearer.
- 397 **PZA Stout:** Separate items. Instead of just one big paragraph. The submission requires that the applicant
- 398 provide an engineer stamped drawing of what they are disturbing and total square feet above 15%.
- 399 Commissioner Chappelle: There's nothing now that also addresses—you get to disturb this 15%. How is
- 400 that going to affect your downhill neighbors with water?

- 401 **PZA Stout:** (Noted in prior requests that issue had been addressed by the engineer in design.) We do
- 402 think about those things at every site. (Also spoke about another variance where the slope treatment
- reduced the slope and water velocity, improving both the subject and adjacent sites.)
- 404 **Commissioner Marshall:** Wants statement that the applicants need designed and stamped approval of their personal engineer for the request.
- 406 **PZA Stout:** They always do, then we have our engineer review the request. (PZA Note: Grading and
- drainage plans identify all areas above 15% slope, and that is the base document for the variance to slope
- request, when needed. Applicants MUST use a New Mexico licensed engineer who stamps and signs their drawing.)
- 410 **Commissioner Harper:** Feels the new section needs to reference that the variance is limited to 1,000
- 411 square feet to prevent wiggle room.
- 412 **PZA Stout:** Summarized discussion and suggestions to that point.
- Chair Black: (Would like to be more specific to what the term development means in this context.
- Volunteered to review changes before they are placed on the next Commission meeting. Asked to have
- 415 text on numbered lines to make it easier to refer to the topic of discussion.)
- 416 Commissioner Balas: I have a draft, so I'm not going to read it out loud. But with the permission of the
- Chair and staff, I'll just e-mail it over.
- 418 Commissioner Morris: Attorney Strife, PZA Stout, Chair Black: (Discussion about language and
- 419 placement of the variance restriction language in the revision.)
- 420 Commissioner Marshall: Note section under discussion is not just Section 18-166 Terrains and
- 421 Stormwater, as listed on the agenda.

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- 422 **Chair Black:** We won't take any action on that because we wouldn't want to misrepresent to the broader
- public what code section we're discussing, but I think that is a very fair articulation. I suggest that we
- review that at a subsequent meeting, for recommendations to the Council.

## IX. PZA REPORT

**PZA Stout:** (Summarized her report, the Building Officials Report and the Code Enforcement Officers Report. Was asked by Commissioner Stermer to have the Code Enforcement Officer label photos more clearly with "before and after" and addresses of sites.)

- X. COMMISSIONERS FORUM
- XI. NEXT MEETING: March 20, 2024 at 6:30pm
  - XII. ADJOURNMENT

Rob Black, Chair

Planning and Zoning Commission

Laurie Stout, Planning & Zoning Administrator

Date