

TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING FRIDAY APR.20, 2007
12:00 Noon

- I. Call to Order: Mayor Aragon, Council Member Cotton, Council Member Whitbred, And Council Member Holt.

Bob Moomaw gave a brief “Thank you” to the Town Council for their actions at the last meeting removing the County from the Historic District and granting the demolition permit. He knew it was a difficult decision. He also wanted to remind the Council to try to attend a Habitat function today at 5:00m p.m. to show elected officials support.

- II. New Business:

1. Tony Gilbert and Angela Atkinson gave a presentation on the Town Tourism Committee efforts that have been accomplished thus far.

Main Directives: Hiring an Executive Director
Special Event Review Process, Develop new visitor’s websites, Logo development, Gateway/Signage. Their main focus is what the TTC is all about, creating advertising, campaigning, budgeting and special event strategic.

Mayor Aragon asked Tony Gilbert about funding. Gilbert replied they have an adequate number. Mainly from Lodger’s Tax increase.

2. First Reading of Ordinance NO. 689 – Repealing and Readopting Article 14 and
3. First Reading of Ordinance NO. 690 – Amending Article 6, Chapter 21

Mayor Aragon and the Council have not had enough time to think these changes out. It was not urgent at this point to have a decision at this point and time and would like to continue with just a work session with the Historic Preservation Board Members. They would like more amendments and had more concerns.

Council Member Cotton moved to be out of regular session. Council Member Whitbred Seconded and with 4 ayes motion was carried. 12:37 p.m.

Town Planner, Allen opened up the work session going over the memo which was from Collins, Cockrel and Cole. Regarding Article 14 with many revisions and additions. One main concern was the ability for the HPB to bring in a request to designate a property. An additional concern was how a property is allowed to be

demolished. 1) Economic Hardship and 2) Structural exemptions. What constitutes this?

Council Member Cotton advised that he had a problem with initiated taking control of somebody's property. Cotton does not think it is okay to bring forth that kind of action. Shari Pierce asked if the entire Board felt this way or if it was just Council Member Cotton's feelings. Mayor Aragon said he supports Cotton's comments and Council Member Whitbred felt the same. Whitbred felt it was infringing on personal property rights. Council Member Holt asked who made the final decision to protect Historic Properties in our Community. Shari Pierce advised the Historic Preservation Board could only make recommendation; the final decision is the Town Council.

Town Council felt that they would be setting a precedent for the Board's to come, to pass this type of legislation today.

Historic Preservation Board Member Glen Raby gave an overview of his concern of Historic Buildings and how he felt things should be handled.

The (2) Boards felt "It's all a Fine Line" how do they find the middle. James Robinson said the town should provide a strong incentive package/strong historic package. Allow to make incentives.

John Hundley felt the need for incentives and analysis of economics.

The public needs to be educated more on Historic Preservation.

The Council Members and Historic Preservation Board went over several of the sections needing to create and retain with more concerns.

There was much discussion on ability to create designated Districts and to what percentage. Defining definition of Districts. Do we have a bonafide District?

Mayor Aragon advised he would like to reschedule another Work Shop with the Historic Preservation Board after the regular Town Council meeting in May. Preferably the middle of May.

Town Planner Allen asked Council what to do on Ord. #690 which was not discussed today. Council felt it was better to get through Ord.689 first and then proceed.

Work Session ended at 2:03 p.m.

Ross Aragon
MAYOR