

PUBLIC HEARINGS

LOUDON CITY COUNCIL

January 19, 2009

Public hearings were held before the Loudon City Council on January 19, 2009 in the Council Meeting Room. Those present for the public hearing were Mayor Bernie R. Swiney, Councilmen Lewis Garner, Mike Cartwright, Eugene Lambert and Lynn Millsaps. Also present were City Manager Lynn Mills, City Attorney Edwin Arnold and City Recorder Stephanie Putkonen. Vicky Newman represented the *News-Herald*. Approximately thirty citizens were present.

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD CHAPTER 3 TO TITLE 8 TO THE CITY OF LOUDON MUNICIPAL CODE

Mayor Swiney called the public hearing to order at 7:00 P.M. He called for comments or questions regarding the ordinance.

Bishop J. Drinnon of the Word of Faith Church stated that he was concerned about the changes that were made to the ordinance last month in Councilman Garner's absence. He said he understood that Mr. Iddins was planning to seek to open a liquor store in the building he owns that also houses the Kwik Pantry. He said the church moved into the building near the Kwik Pantry in 2000. The convenience store already sold beer. He said a different clientele buy beer on their way home versus those who buy liquor. He said because the citizens of the City of Loudon voted overwhelmingly against liquor stores, but circumstances have imposed their location here, he would like to see a one hundred (100) yard boundary imposed from a church or school. He said it wasn't appropriate to have a liquor store next door when he was working with people who were suffering from the perils of alcoholism.

Mr. Michael Price said he had a business on Mulberry Street near the church. He said his business had already been broken into twice. He was concerned there may be an increase of break ins if a liquor store located nearby. He said the majority who voted for liquor stores live in Tellico Village. He said the city wasn't going to allow liquor stores downtown because they want to keep it historic and didn't want to deal with the alcoholics and drug addicts.

Councilman Garner corrected Mr. Price regarding the location of liquor stores downtown. He said the ordinance does allow their location downtown.

Mr. Iddins said that his business had been there considerably longer than the church. He said there had been no major altercations. He said the clientele of a liquor store would be no worse than those who buy beer. If he was chosen, he would run a creditable establishment.

Mr. Lloyd Yearwood said he was not for it at all. He said not for our kids or near our churches.

Bishop Drinnon said the church's insurance provider told him their premiums would increase if a liquor store located within five hundred (500) feet. He asked city council not to burden the parishioners by paying increased premiums. He added that Mr. John Cobb who owns a business across the street was fairly irate. He said the traffic on Friday was already a problem and the location of a liquor store would add to the problem.

There being no further comments, Mayor Swiney closed the public hearing at 7:12 P.M.

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBSECTION (1) OF SECTION 8-209,
SECTIONS 8-207 SUBSECTION (1), 8-213 AND 8-214, AND TO ADD
SECTION 8-215 TO THE CITY OF LOUDON MUNICIPAL CODE**

Mayor Swiney called the public hearing to order at 7:12 P.M. He called for comments or questions regarding the ordinance.

There were none, Mayor Swiney closed the public hearing at 7:13 P.M.

Recorder

Mayor