

Town of Talking Rock

November Public Hearing Minutes

November 7, 2019

The purpose of the hearing is to discuss a request submitted by owners, Audrey Kirsten & Steve Lewis, to have parcel 020A-048-049 be granted a variance to allow the owners to have a private residence above their business, Shadow Creek Antiques.

Those present were Charles Opdenhoff, Eve Sauer, David Chance Walters, Nancy Loy, Lynda Cagle, Jan O' Kelley, Stan O'Kelley, Brad Shallid, April Mullis, Steve Lewis, Audrey Kirsten, Atty. Sherri H. Stoney, Ralph Dennis, Mari Livsey.

Council members present were Mayor Randy Banks, Chery Sams, Andrea Watson, and Melissa Weaver and Attorney Jeff Rusbridge, Town counsel. James Bryant was absent.

Mayor Randy Banks called the Public Hearing to order @ 6:32 pm.

Attorney Sherri H. Stoney, attorney for Audrey Kirsten and Steve Lewis presented their case for variance. She stated her clients wanted to live the way they did when they first moved in in 2012. At that time, they had a residence upstairs and animals on the property. Attorney Stoney stated Audrey and Steve loved Talking Rock and wanted it to be their home. She provided the council with GA Codes regarding historic districts and reviewed these with the council. Mayor Banks presented attorney with state fire codes. He stated he had spoken with the State Fire Marshall, the building inspector and if the variance was approved the owners would have to follow and comply with the state's minimum fire codes. Cheryl Sams stated the loose chickens are a hazard to drivers traveling through town and destructive to neighbor's yards.

The floor was open to those who wanted to speak for or against the variance. Charles Opdenhoff and Lynda Cagle spoke in favor of granting the variance. No one spoke against granting the variance.

The public hearing was closed @ 6:57 pm.