

Mt. Vernon Public Hearing

April 19, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

Mt. Vernon Community Center

Attended by: Ordinance Review Committee members Susan Herman, Heather Roberts, Fred Webber, Kiley DeHaven, Ron Larue, Michele Pino

Members of the public: Cathy Jacobs, Tom Jacobs, Ona Fast, Tom Trainer, Rachel Trainer, Wendy Stevens, Doug Stevens, Ingrid Grenas, Barry Skilling, Alice Counts, Aaron Berls, Mike Smith, Bill Smith, Bob Grenier, Anna Libby

Susan Herman, Chair, called the hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing was to present the following:

Reformatted Mt. Vernon Land Use Ordinance (LUO)

Draft amendments to the LUO regarding Affordable Housing Density – Sections 4 + 5 of LD 2003 and Draft amendments regarding Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) relative to LD 2003

Draft amendments to campgrounds and summer camps

Reformatted Town of Mt. Vernon Land Use Ordinance (LUO) has no substantive changes. The document is simply reformatted, errors and omissions have been corrected, and references updated. An index has been added. The reformatted version prove to be easier to use and reference its content.

Draft amendments to the LUO regarding LD 2003 are required to be completed by July 1, 2023. The amendments are pending a legal review that is in process and pending any amendments to the law currently being considered by the Legislature.

Draft amendment to campgrounds and summer camps; this amendment adopts the footnote contained in the State shoreland zoning minimum guidelines and states that campgrounds are allowed in those districts specified in Table 4-1, even though they are a subset of commercial use. The amendment also allows grandfathered summer camps to expand beyond the size limit for commercial uses in the rural district. This amendment is consistent with how development proposals involving expansions of summer camps in the rural district have been historically treated.

Suggestions by the public include:

Change reference to Limited Commercial in the LUO to Growth Zone.

Reference laws in the LUO instead of including the entire definition in the LUO.

There were several questions/concerns about LD 2003 in general. Comments related primarily to whether the implementation deadline of July 1, 2023 would be extended and whether towns under 10,000 in population would be exempted from the law. .

The hearing ended at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pino, Substitute Secretary