

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. (1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: January 26, 2010

TITLE: Public Hearing on a Land Use Ordinance Text Amendment Revising Outdoor Lighting Standards

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING YES X NO __
ATTACHMENTS A. Resolutions finding consistency B. Draft ordinance C. Staff memo D. LUO Sections 15-242 and 15-242 E. LUO Text Amendment request F. Recommendations and Comments	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia McGuire – 918-7327 Mike Brough – 929-3905

PURPOSE

A draft ordinance modifying outdoor lighting provisions has been prepared. The Board of Aldermen must receive public comment before taking any action.

INFORMATION

A review of lighting provisions has been occurring, off and on, since 2002 when the Northern Transition Area Advisory Commission made a series of recommendations about lighting regulations. Some concerns and opportunities were brought to light during a worksession held in 2004. The Board of Aldermen charged the staff to proceed with several next steps. In 2005, the lighting ordinance was included as part of a comprehensive assessment/update of the LUO. Staff began review of draft ordinance provisions in 2006. In 2007, owners/developers of the 300 E. Main Street project requested an amendment to lighting levels for certain areas in the downtown. The amendment was approved in early 2007. In 2009, the town received a text amendment request related to lighting on properties with existing nonconforming lighting. See attached memo for additional information on the draft ordinance, a comparison to NTAAC recommendations, and to the International Dark Sky Association (IDSA) Model Lighting Ordinance (*Attachments C-E*).

The draft ordinance was referred to the Planning Board, Orange County, the Environmental Advisory Board, Recreation and Parks Commission, Economic Sustainability Commission, and Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee. The Recreation and Parks Commission and the Economic Sustainability Commission did not comment on the ordinance. The Northern Transition Area Advisory Commission is scheduled to review the ordinance on January 25th. Comments and recommendations from the Planning Board, Environmental Advisory Board and Orange County are attached (*Attachment F*).

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

None noted.

RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen consider adopting the resolution finding consistency (*Attachment A-I*) and the draft ordinance (*Attachment B*).