

FEB - 1 2016

ORDINANCE NO. 3239

AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A SIGN VARIANCE TO FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR THE PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 600 COLUMBIA CENTRE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS TO EXCEED THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT OF SIGN AREA PERMITTED ON ONE STREET FRONT IN A COMMERCIAL ZONED DISTRICT IN THE CITY


City Clerk

WHEREAS, Section 15.44.100 "Sign Area Allowance" of the City's Sign Code provides and requires that the maximum signage a particular establishment is permitted to display shall be one (1) square foot of sign area per one (1) lineal foot of building frontage, not to exceed one hundred (100) lineal feet of such building frontage; and, no establishment in any zoned district shall be permitted to display more than one hundred (100) square feet of signage;

WHEREAS, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church ("Applicants") filed a Request for Sign Variance Application with the Columbia City Clerk on November 10, 2015 requesting that there be allowed two hundred fourteen (214) square feet of wall signage consisting of a one hundred twelve (112) square foot Wall Sign and a one hundred two (102) square foot Wall Sign displayed at 600 Columbia Centre;

WHEREAS, Subsection B (Public Hearing Notice) of Section 15.44.380 (Variances) of the City's Sign Code provides and requires that the street graphics advisory committee shall hold a public hearing on the variance request within sixty (60) days after the variance application is submitted to them following publication of notice of the hearing and first class mailing of the notice to the variance applicant not less than fifteen (15) days and not more than thirty (30) days before the hearing, at which hearing interested persons may appear and testify;

WHEREAS, Subsection C (Advisory Report) of Section 15.44.380 (Variances), of the City's Sign Code provides and requires that the street graphics advisory committee shall submit its report regarding the variance request to the City Council within ten (10) days of the public hearing (or seventy (70) days after it receives the variance application) or shall be deemed to have approved the variance request;

WHEREAS, Subsection D (Decision of the City Council) of Section 15.44.380 (Variances), of the City's Sign code provides and requires that the City Council shall act upon the variance request at their next regular meeting following receipt of the street graphics advisory committee's advisory report or ninety (90) days after filing of the variance application with the City Clerk, whichever is less; that the City Council shall

grant or deny the request by simple majority vote of a quorum of all members of the City Council then holding office; and if the City Council fails to have acted upon the variance request within the deadline aforesaid the City Council shall be deemed to have approved the request;

WHEREAS, Subsection E (Standards for Variances) of Section 15.44.380 (Variances) of the City's Sign Code provides and requires that the City Council shall not grant any street graphic variance unless, based upon the evidence presented to them, they find that special circumstances involving size, shape, topographic, location or surrounds affect the property referred in the application and denial of the application would cause unreasonable or unnecessary hardship; and further, that the sign will not cause substantial injury to the value of other property in the vicinity nor be detrimental to the public safety or welfare and the neighborhood in which it is located;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirement of Section 15.44.380 of the City's Sign Code, a public hearing with regard to the variance requested was held before the Street Graphics Committee of the City on the 7th day of January, 2016 (and within the sixty (60) day deadline required by the Sign Code) at the Columbia City Hall and a quorum of the members of the Street Graphics Committee was present and all five (5) committee members voted unanimously to recommend to the Columbia City Council to grant a variance from the provisions of section 15.44.100 "Sign Area Allowance";

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of Section 15.44.380 of the City's Sign Code, the City's City Council has found and determined and does hereby declare, that based upon the evidence presented, special circumstances that may exist involving the size, location and surroundings of the subject property and in the circumstances involved in the granting of the sign variance request which may result in unreasonable and unnecessary hardship if the variance is not granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. The recitals contained above in the preamble of this Ordinance are hereby incorporated herein by reference, the same as if set forth in this Section of this Ordinance verbatim, as findings of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois.

Section 2. The Applicants are hereby granted a sign variance or special exception from the requirements of Section 15.44.100 "Sign Area Allowance" of the City's Sign Code, to permit two hundred fourteen (214) square feet of wall signage consisting of a one hundred twelve (112) square foot Wall Sign and a one hundred two (102) square foot Wall Sign be displayed at 600 Columbia Centre;

Section 3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Alderman Niemietz moved the adoption of the above and foregoing Ordinance; the motion was seconded by Alderman Reis, and the roll call vote was as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 1st day of February, 2016.



KEVIN B. HUTCHINSON, Mayor

ATTEST:



WESLEY J. HOEPFKEN, City Clerk

(SEAL)