
ORDINANCE NO. O-1213-38

ITEM NO. 10

STAFF REPORT

ITEM: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AMENDING SECTION 431.6, COMMERCIAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS OF CHAPTER 22 (ZONING ORDINANCE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORMAN; AMENDING SECTION 450 (51) TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF GLARE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY THEREOF.

BACKGROUND:

In December, 2012 the City Council Oversight Committee began a discussion regarding amending the Commercial Outdoor Lighting Standards in the Zoning Ordinance. The current standards were adopted in June, 2011. Several draft ordinances were presented to the Committee for discussion and review.

DISCUSSION:

The topics that were discussed included:

1. The Photometric Plan
2. Raising the lumen cap
3. Spillover on right-of-way and points of entrance
4. Glare, invisible bulbs and reflective light
5. Commercial on commercial
6. OG&E payment plan

These items were discussed at the January, 2013 and the February, 2013 meetings, and staff prepared several draft ordinances for discussion.

The draft Ordinance attached for the Planning Commission's consideration represents a compromise agreed to by the Committee and other interested parties who participated in the discussion.

The amended Commercial Outdoor Lighting Standards still have a list of exempt lighting; there is the same list of prohibited lighting; and all new nonexempt outdoor lighting fixtures must be full cut-off fixtures mounted horizontally to the ground.

The primary changes from the current ordinance are the following:

1. The compliance tables have been removed and replaced with language that specifies corrective action.
2. Section 5 has been modified to take out all references to total light output and lumen limitations and specifically Section 5(f) is deleted.
3. The maximum light level restriction of 0.2 footcandles is only required at any point on an abutting residential property line.
4. The language regarding pole heights remains the same except when a business is expanding the new light poles can be the same height as those existing.

5. The photometric plan is no longer required but may be submitted. If submitted, it shall create a legal presumption that the subject property is in compliance with the ordinance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the attached Ordinance amendments.