

# **City of Grand Island**

Tuesday, December 18, 2007 Council Session

## Item E3

Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments to the Grand Island City Code Section 36.71 Section A(2) of the ME Zoning District Regarding Propane Storage Tanks

**Staff Contact: Chad Nabity** 

## **Council Agenda Memo**

From:	Chad Nabity AICP, CRA Director		
Meeting:	December 18, 2007		
Subject:	Zoning Ordinance Amendment		
Item #'s:	E-3 & F-1		
<b>Presenter(s):</b>	Chad Nabity AICP, CRA Director		

## **Background**

Concerning amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Grand Island and its 2 mile extra-territorial jurisdiction. Amendments to be considered pertain to the §36-71(A) 2 ME-Manufacturing Estates Zone Permitted Principal Uses including the wholesale distribution as an allowed use in buildings heated with propane and with a propane tank or tank of 70,000 gallons or smaller total capacity. (C-6-2008GI)

## **Discussion**

A request by Bosselman Energy Inc. to place a single tank of up to 40,000 gallons on the site, and use it as shown above, was approved in April of 2006. Bosselman Energy Inc. is asking that the language be amended again to allow more than one tank and a maximum capacity of up to 70,000 gallons. The additional capacity would allow them to vacate the site at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Blaine/Custer. The requested change is as follows:

The changes proposed here were requested by Bosselman Energy Inc. of Grand Island, Nebraska. All areas with changes are highlighted. Additions are *Italicized and underlined* and deletions are in strike out.

### §36-71. (ME) Industrial Estates Zone

*Intent:* The intent of this zoning district is to provide for a variety of manufacturing, truck, trailer, and truck/trailer parts retailing, truck, trailer, and truck/trailer parts wholesaling, warehousing, administrative and research uses within an area of comparatively high visibility and having quality standards to promote an industrial park atmosphere.

(A) <u>Permitted Principal Uses</u>: The following principal uses are permitted in the (ME) Industrial Estates Zoning District.

(1) Any industrial/manufacturing use found in the Zoning Matrix [Attachment A hereto] shall be permitted within this zoning district, provided, such use is in

compliance with miscellaneous provisions and performance standards listed in this section, or unless specifically excluded, or a conditional use as listed below. (2) Administrative offices for the wholesale distribution of propane when bottles are filled from a bulk propane tanks not to exceed 40,000 70,000 gallons and when such tanks is *are* installed primarily to provide a source of heat for a building on the lot.

Planning Commission members asked how many tanks this change would allow. Nabity suggest that it would allow up to 70,000 one gallon tanks but that that would not be very efficient. From discussions with Ken Caldwell, it appears that there will be 2 tanks.

Ken Caldwell, Bosselman Energy, spoke at the public hearing. He said that Bosselman's would not store additional tanks at this facility. They would store the small tanks that they refill and deliver for use on fork lifts but those would be inside the building.

Planning Commission Chairman O'Neill questioned the word primarily in the current language. His concern was not with the use; but, rather that if they wholesale more propane than they use in heating the building, what is the primary use of the tanks. After discussion, it was decided that the word primarily could also be removed along with the changes requested by Bosselman Energy Inc.

The Planning Commission approved, and recommended approval of this amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Grand Island and its 2 mile extra-territorial jurisdiction unanimously.

The changes recommended for approval are as follows:

All areas with changes are highlighted. Additions are *Italicized and underlined* and deletions are in strike out.

#### §36-71. (ME) Industrial Estates Zone

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(2) Administrative offices for the wholesale distribution of propane when bottles are filled from **a** bulk propane tanks not to exceed  $40,000 \ \overline{70,000}$  gallons and when such tanks is <u>are</u> installed primarily to provide a source of heat for a building on the lot.

## **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

- 1. Approve the amendment to Zoning Ordinance in Code 36-71 as presented
- 2. Modify the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to meet the wishes of the Council
- 3. Table the issue

## **Recommendation**

A motion was made by Amick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Snodgrass, to approve the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance in Code 36-71 as presented, with exception of striking the word "primarily" in 36-71 (A) 2 ME-Manufacturing Estates Zone Permitted Principal Uses.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 members present (Miller, Amick, O'Neill, Ruge, Hayes, Reynolds, Monter, Haskins, Bredthauer, Snodgrass) voting in favor.

## **Sample Motion**

Approve the zoning code amendments as presented.

#### Agenda Item #6

## PLANNING DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

November 19, 2007

#### SUBJECT:

Concerning amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Grand Island and its 2 mile extra-territorial jurisdiction. Amendments to be considered pertain to the §36-71(A) 2 ME-Manufacturing Estates Zone Permitted Principal Uses including the wholesale distribution as an allowed use in building heated with propane and with a propane tank or tank of 70,000 gallons or smaller total capacity. (C-6-2008GI)

#### PROPOSAL:

The changes proposed here were requested by Bosselman Energy Inc. of Grand Island, Nebraska. All areas with changes are highlighted. Additions are *Italicized and underlined* and deletions are in strike out.

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(2) Administrative offices for the wholesale distribution of propane when bottles are filled from a bulk propane tanks not to exceed  $40,000 \ \overline{70,000}$  gallons and when such tanks is <u>are</u> installed primarily to provide a source of heat for a building on the lot.

### OVERVIEW:

The ME zone specifically prohibits the storage tanks for fuel and chemicals but that does not prohibit the installation of a tank for heating purposes. The intent of the prohibition is to limit the likelihood of the ME Zone becoming a tank farm atmosphere versus a campus atmosphere. That intent and the prohibitions on

storage of fuel limit the ability of owners to heat their building with propane and to store propane on the property for that purpose. A propane tank up to, or larger than, 70,000 gallons, would be permitted as a source of fuel for heating a building.

A request to place a single tank of up to 40,000 gallons on the site, and use it as shown above, was approved in April of 2006. Bosselman Energy Inc. is asking that the language be amended again to allow more than one tank and a maximum capacity of up to 70,000 gallons. The additional capacity would allow them to vacate the site at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Blaine/Custer.

It would appear that these proposed changes fall within the intent of the ME District as it has been applied at the Platte Valley Industrial Park. Any further change to this regulation in regard to storage tanks should be accompanied by a reflection on the intent of the district.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Regional Planning Commission recommend that the Grand Island City Council **approve** the changes to the Grand Island Zoning Ordinance as requested.

\_ Chad Nabity AICP, Planning Director

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3123 West Stolley Park Road • PO Box 1567 • Grand Island, Nebraska 69802-1567 Phone (306) 381-2800 • Fax (306) 382-1160 • www.bosselman.com

10-02-2007

Mr. Chad Nabity Hall County Regional Planning Director PO BOX 1968 Grand Island NE 68802

RE: requested amendments to zoning ordinance

Chad,

Bosselman Energy is requesting a minor amendment to the Zoning Ordinance in Code 36-71 Section A (2). The change we request is a minor wording change and volume increase allowed for propane storage. Bosselmans would like to amend the language from tank to tank(s) to allow an additional propane storage tank to be added and the volume increased from the existing limit of 40,000 gallons to 70,000 gallons. This volume is required to accept the additional tank. Bosselman Energy, currently constructing a building in the Industrial Park on Juergens Road, requested and received an amendment change to allow one bulk propane tank not to exceed 40,000 gallons on the site.

Now with regards to safety, security and economies of scale, we are specifically requesting an adjustment so the tank now located at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Blaine can be moved to the Juergens Road location. This will greatly improve safety and security for storage and reduce the number of sites of storage within the city limits. Original plans for usage at the site are not changing. The property footprint for the additional tank is very minimal and will not be likened to a "tank farm".

Bosselman respectfully requests these changes at the earliest convenience due to construction now under way and the time of the season for making the necessary improvements.

Sincerely,

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Fred Bosselman President Bosselman Energy 308-381-6900