

CITY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: 11/25/14 (work session) CUT OFF DATE: 11/19/14
12/9/14 (1st reading) 1/13/15 (2nd reading/Public Hearing)

RESOLUTION ___ ORDINANCE X PUBLIC HEARING X

ITEM TITLE:

RZ-14-625 AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.064 ACRES OF LAND AT 116 W. LEICESTER STREET (Map Number 192-01-S-12) & 118 W. LEICESTER STREET (Map Number 192-01-S-13) FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (MR) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY TO RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval

PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING:

Public hearing for 1/13/15 Council mtg

ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Planning Commission recommended approval subject to proffers.

FUNDING DATA: N/A

INSURANCE: N/A

The initiating Department Director will place below, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda.

Table with 4 columns: DEPARTMENT, INITIALS FOR APPROVAL, INITIALS FOR DISAPPROVAL, DATE. Rows include Zoning & Inspections, City Attorney, City Manager, and Clerk of Council.

Initiating Department Director's Signature: (Planning Dept) [Signature] 11/19/14



APPROVED AS TO FORM: [Signature] 11/19/2014 CITY ATTORNEY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY



CITY COUNCIL ACTION MEMO

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Tim Youmans, Planning Director

Date: November 19, 2014

Re: **RZ-14-625** AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.064 ACRES OF LAND AT 116 W. LEICESTER STREET (*Map Number 192-01-S-12*) & 118 W. LEICESTER STREET (*Map Number 192-01-S-13*) FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (MR) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY TO RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY.

THE ISSUE:

Conditionally rezone two adjoining vacant lots along the north side of W. Leicester Street to allow for reconstruction of two townhouses similar in scale to the two blighted dwelling units that were demolished on the properties in recent years. A proffer would prohibit any commercial use of the properties.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Create A More Livable City for All

BACKGROUND:

See attached staff report

BUDGET IMPACT:

None

OPTIONS:

1. Approve with proffer as recommended by Planning Commission
2. Table request
3. Deny request

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend Option 1

Council Work Session
November 25, 2014

RZ-14-625 AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.064 ACRES OF LAND AT 116 W. LEICESTER STREET (*Map Number 192-01-S-12*) & 118 W. LEICESTER STREET (*Map Number 192-01-S-13*) FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (MR) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY TO RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY.

REQUEST DESCRIPTION

The request is to conditionally rezone two adjoining vacant lots along the north side of W. Leicester Street midway between S. Braddock Street and S. Washington Street to allow for reconstruction of two townhouses similar in scale to the two blighted dwelling units that were demolished on the properties in recent years. The attached letter received on October 2, 2014 from Mr. Brent Markee explains the request and notes their intent to include proffers that would prohibit any commercial use of the properties.

AREA DESCRIPTION

The alley that runs in a north-south direction midway between S. Braddock Street and S. Washington Street is the interface of the Residential-Business (RB-1) district to the east and the Medium Density Residential (MR) district to the west. The historical pattern of development along the north side of W. Leicester St in this area is different than exists along most of the other east-west grid streets in the southwest portion of the historic district such that the lots were platted much smaller and narrower than the lots on the other cross streets.

The MR-zoned land to the west includes some other narrow lots with attached homes on them to the immediate west and larger detached single-family dwellings further to the west along S. Washington Street. The RB-1-zoned land to the east includes small and mid-sized dwellings, including duplexes and apartments on narrow lots along W. Leicester Street and S. Braddock Street. S. Braddock Street includes some commercial uses as well.



STAFF COMMENTS

The Comprehensive Plan calls for Neighborhood Stabilization in this area. The conditional rezoning would support appropriately scaled redevelopment of two townhouse dwellings (one dwelling per lot) on an infill basis. The two attached dwellings that previously existed on the two lots were demolished a couple of years ago due to their blighted condition. The current MR zoning would not permit any reasonable use of the property. The proposed RB-1 zoning would allow for replacement of the former two units with no increase in density. The rezoning does not affect the Historic Winchester (HW) overlay zoning. Any construction on the lots would need to comply with historic district standards and a certificate of appropriateness would need to be issued by the Board of Architectural Review.

Four adjoining property owners along W. Leicester Street spoke at the Planning Commission public hearing on this item. Concerns were expressed about whether or not new townhouse construction would fit the neighborhood, whether rebuilding on the east lot would create safety concerns along the alley, whether the new unit on the west lot would be set back from the side line where the former structure had been attached to the structure on the adjoining lot, and whether there would be an impact on available parking.

RECOMMENDATION

At its November 18, 2014 meeting, the Planning Commission unanimously forwarded **RZ-14-625** to City Council recommending approval as depicted on an exhibit entitled "*Rezoning Exhibit RZ-14-625, Prepared by Winchester Planning Department, 10-3-2014*" because the request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan which calls for Neighborhood Stabilization in the site. The approval is subject to the proffers in the proffer statement titled "Rezoning Request Proffer" dated October 31, 2014.

AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.064 ACRES OF LAND AT 116 W. LEICESTER STREET & 118 W. LEICESTER STREET FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (MR) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY TO RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1) ZONING WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HW) OVERLAY
RZ-14-625

WHEREAS, the Code of Virginia provides that one of the purposes of Zoning Ordinances is to facilitate the creation of a convenient, attractive and harmonious community; and,

WHEREAS, the adopted Comprehensive Plan calls for Neighborhood Stabilization in the subject area; and,

WHEREAS, the current Medium Density Residential (MR) zoning of the two lots does not support reasonable redevelopment; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission forwarded the request to Council on November 18, 2014 recommending approval of the rezoning as depicted on an exhibit entitled "*Rezoning Exhibit RZ-14-625, Prepared by Winchester Planning Department, 10-3-2014*" because the request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan which calls for Neighborhood Stabilization in the area; and,

WHEREAS, a synopsis of this Ordinance has been duly advertised and a Public Hearing has been conducted by the Common Council of the City of Winchester, Virginia, all as required by the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and the said Council has determined that the rezoning associated with this property herein designated is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Winchester, Virginia that the following land is hereby rezoned from the existing zoning designation of Medium Density Residential (MR) District to Residential-Business (RB-1) District:

Approximately 0.064 acres of land at 116 and 118 W. Leicester Street as depicted on an exhibit entitled "*Rezoning Exhibit RZ-14-625, Prepared by Winchester Planning Department 10-3-2014*". The rezoning is subject to the proffers in the proffer statement titled "*Rezoning Request Proffer*" dated October 31, 2014.

Triple T Construction and Plumbing LLC
563 Priscilla Street Hedgesville, WV 25427
540-550-3076

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in reference to property, 116 and 118 Leicester Street, owned by Mr. Agnaldo DeSouza of Inwood, WV. I have been hired by Mr. DeSouza to try and develop the property so he may recover some of his investment into the property. When the property was purchased a few years ago, there were two houses on the two lots attached together to another house on the next lot. The plan was to renovate the houses and rent them, but after consulting with the city, they were required to be torn down. Not only was the cost of demolition high but the third house had to be closed in where the previous houses had been attached. We assumed we would be grandfathered in to build two houses on these lots, and improve the city of Winchester's streets, but upon inquiry with the city we were told the current zoning wouldn't allow us to build ANYTHING on these two lots. The lots adjoin an alley where the RB-1 zoning ends, which allows multi family building, and is currently located in MR zoning which allows single family only. We cannot build a single family home on the lots, even if they are combined, because the lot would still be too small for the MR zoning requirements. Also I don't think we can recover even the original investment with one house, due to the deteriorated condition of many of the houses on that particular block. We are asking for a conditional rezoning to build two townhouses on these two lots, as we are not interested in anything commercial there. Most of the lots are large in the MR zoning area, but these lot are very small, only 45' wide combined and 175' deep, so they definitely fit better in the RB-1 zoning. Also the next four lots are the same with row houses on two of them, so we believe townhouses would blend in well there. So we respectfully ask that these lots be placed into the RB-1 zoning so we may proceed to build there, and recover the investment made into these two lots.



Sincerely,
Brent Markee Owner/Manager

RZ-14-625

116 & 118 W. LEICESTER STREET
REZONING REQUEST PROFFER

Tax Map Number: **192-01-S-12 & 192-01-S-13**
Owner: **Aginaldo Silva De Souza**
Applicant: **Brent Markee**



Date: October 31, 2014

Property Information

The undersigned applicant hereby proffers that in the event the Common Council of Winchester (Council) shall approve the rezoning of *116 W. Leicester Street and 118 W. Leicester Street* from *Medium Density Residential District (MR)* into *Residential Business District (RB1)*, then development of the subject property shall be done in conformity with the terms and conditions as set forth herein, except to the extent that such terms and conditions maybe subsequently amended or revised by the applicant and such be approved by the Council in accordance with the Virginia law. In the event that such rezoning is not granted, then these proffers shall be deemed withdrawn and have no effect whatsoever. These proffers shall be binding upon the applicant and their legal successor or assigns.

Any and all proffers and conditions accepted or binding upon the aforementioned property, as a condition of accepting these proffers, shall be become void and have no subsequent affect.

Site Plan Improvements

The undersigned applicant, who is acting on behalf of the owners of the above described property, hereby voluntarily proffers that, if the Council of the City of Winchester approves the rezoning, the undersigned will provide:

1. Proposed Use:

- If this rezoning is accepted, the proposed use shall be limited to two (02) Townhouses.

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The conditions proffered above shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and successors in interest of the Applicant and Owner. In the event the Council grants said rezoning and accepts these conditions, the proffered conditions shall apply to the land rezoned in addition to other requirements set forth in the City of Winchester Code.

Respectfully submitted,

PROPERTY OWNER

By: Agnaldo De Souza Date: 11-03-14

STATE OF VIRGINIA, AT LARGE

COUNTY /CITY OF Winchester, To Wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 3 day of November, 2014
by Agnaldo De Souza.

My commission expires 09/30/2016.

Notary Public Jose Elias Martinez

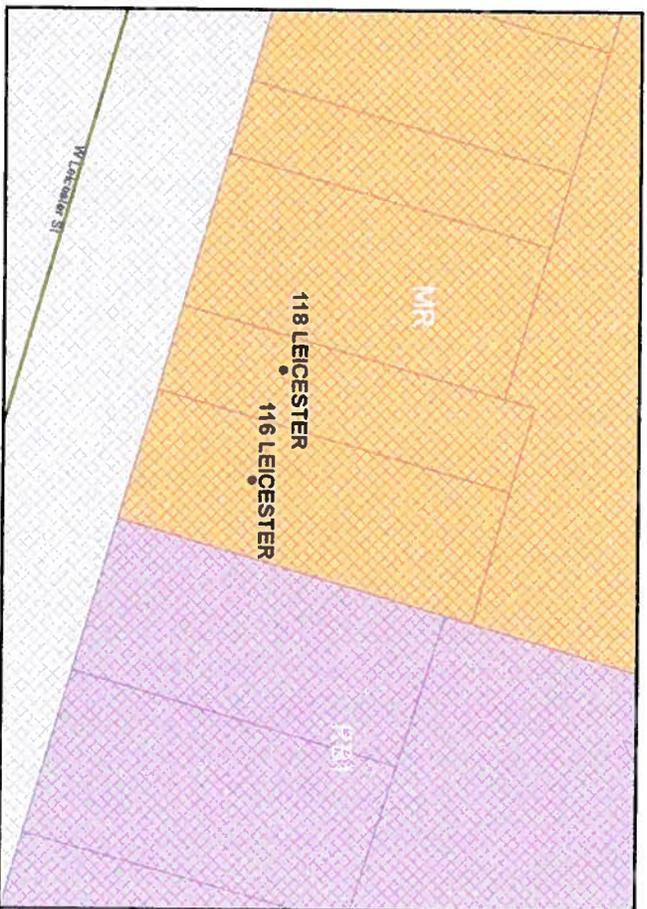
JOSE ELIAS MARTINEZ
NOTARY PUBLIC 7527577
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 09-30-2016

REZONING EXHIBIT

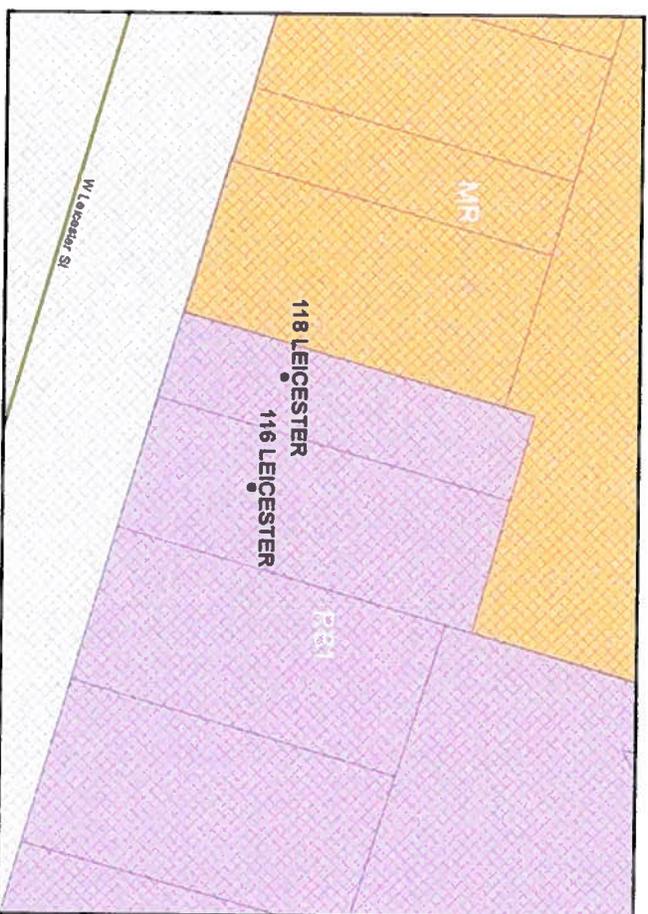
RZ-14-625

PREPARED BY WINCHESTER PLANNING DEPARTMENT

10-03-2014



EXISTING
MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (MR) ZONING
WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HM) OVERLAY
FOR 116 & 118 WEST LEICESTER STREET



PROPOSED
RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (RB-1) ZONING
WITH HISTORIC WINCHESTER DISTRICT (HM) OVERLAY
FOR 116 & 118 WEST LEICESTER STREET



