Fountain County Plan Commission

Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Proposed

Text Amendments to the Fountain County Zoning Ordinance

The Fountain County Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the adoption of proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for the County. The meeting will be held in the Fountain County Courthouse's Council Chambers, 2nd floor, 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932. The proposed amended Zoning Ordinance, if adopted, will apply to all unincorporated areas in Fountain County.

The proposed text amendments suspend Article 9, which permits and regulates Solar Farms and Facilities in Agriculture and Industrial Zoning Districts, extending the current moratorium period as it applies to commercial solar energy systems to give the Couty time to further evaluate and analyze the impact of commercial solar energy systems development on the County and their compliance with the Fountain County Comprehensive Plan and Indiana law.

The proposed ordinance contains the following penalty provisions:

VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES: Any structure or use that violates this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a common nuisance and the owner of the structure or land shall be liable for maintaining a common nuisance. Any person or legal entity that is found by a Court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any provision of this Ordinance may be fined not more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per offenses, plus costs, and attorney fees where the action is not brought pursuant to I.C. 36-7-4-1013, and have judgment entered accordingly.

Citizens appearing at the public hearing will have an opportunity to provide comments concerning the proposed Zoning Ordinance. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The Plan Commission may continue the hearing from time to time as may be found necessary. Citizens may file written objections with APC Chair Jon Schrock, 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932 before the public hearing. All such written objections will be considered by the Plan Commission.

A copy of the proposed text amendments is on file and may be examined at the Fountain County Website & Assessor's office at 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932 (765-793-2243), office hours are 8:00-4:30 weekdays except holidays.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone intending to attend the public hearing needs reasonable accommodation, please contact the Fountain County Auditor's office at 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932 (765-793-2243).

This notice dated March 21, 2025.

Publish one time no later than April 8, 2025.

Send Proofs and Invoices to:

Fountain County Auditor

301 Fourth Street Covington, IN 4793

Jon Schrock, APC Chair