

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinance No. 07-432

Introduced on August 13, 2007

Introduced by Ken Wheat

Public Hearing August 27, 2007

An ordinance to create necessary measures to ensure the Safety of the citizens of Washington Parish, the following requirements and restrictions are hereby promulgated into law for Transitional Facility.

WHEREAS, in order to create necessary measures to ensure the safety of the citizens of Washington Parish, the following requirements and restrictions are hereby promulgated into law:

A. **DEFINITIONS:**

Transitional Facility- A facility used to house convict felons after their release from prison that assists in providing transitional support and direction to inmates reentering society, whether or not said person(s) is homeless and even if referred to as a homeless shelter.

Any homeless shelter or group residence with convicted felons as residents is hereby considered a "Transitional Facility" if at any time its population is equal to or exceeds Fifteen Percent (15%) convicted felon. Any such shelter or residence is subject to all of the requirements of this ordinance.

B. **REQUIREMENTS:**

In order to own and or operate any such transitional facility in the Parish of Washington, it is required that an owner/operator of such facility make immediate application for a permit to operate the facility, and the facility must be available for inspection of the premises by the parish Engineer or his representative on an annual basis. The owner/operator must acquire insurance and the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence or equal bonding and proof of indemnification.

The required permit fee shall be \$500 annually beginning on or before the 15th day of January 2008, and must be approved by resolution of the Washington Parish Council after and only after proper advertisement and placement on the Washington Parish Council agenda.

Transitional facilities now in existence and/or established in the future, are required to be surrounded by a privacy fence of no less than six feet (6') and no more than eight feet (8'). Each transitional facility will have a person(s) supervising that facility who will be upon the premises daily and make face to face contact with each occupant on a daily basis.

The supervision(s) and/or owner(s) are responsible to report to the Washington Parish Sheriff any suspected criminal acts perpetrated by any of the occupants of the facility immediately, including, but not limited to, any and all parole or probation violations. Failure to report such criminal acts immediately is grounds for immediate and permanent cancellation of the permit to operate such facility or other lesser sanctions within the discretion of the Washington Parish Council.

Any transitional facility in existence on the date this ordinance becomes effective will be restricted to the number of occupants then currently residing in the facility on that date. In order to increase the number of occupants beyond that number or in order to expand the physical plant of the facility, the owner must seek approval by resolution of the Washington Parish Council as otherwise required by law.

Any new transitional facility seeking a permit to operate as required herein above is hereby limited to eight occupants at a maximum at any time.

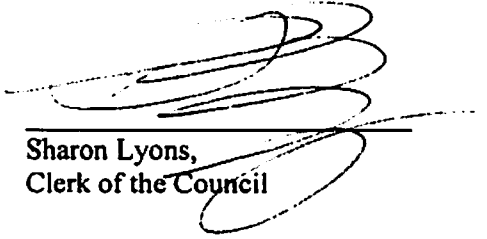
government has taken their land. We are not the Wild West. We do not want sex offenders or a pig farm next door to us, but without the landuse ordinance it can not be stopped, because you can only operate within the law. I think the landuse plan is good. The Planning Commission has reduced the plan, and I hope the Council will adopt the new plan before the election.

Item No. 16 – Council Discussion – There was no discussion at this time.

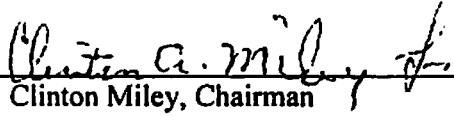
Council Miley offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Brown to add back 2 tenths of a mile to inventory for Allen Morris Road (Road No. 2-059). All in favor and the motion carried.

Councilman Miley offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Sharp to add to the inventory list 1.5 miles of gravel road and it be dedicated to J.P. & Francis Road. There are three residents on this road. All in favor and the motion carried.

Item No. 17 – Adjourn – Having no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned on motion by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Sharp. All in favor the motion carried.



Sharon Lyons,
Clerk of the Council



Clinton Miley, Chairman
Washington Parish Council