

July 15, 1997

STATE OF TEXAS

PUBLIC HEARING

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

BE IT KNOWN that on the 15th day of July, 1997, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Johnson County, with the exception of Comm. Thompson, met in Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m. at The Cleburne Civic Center, along with the Sexually Oriented Business Task Force, Planning and Zoning Commission and Representatives from the City Councils from the following Cities: Cleburne, Keene, Joshua, Godley, Grandview, Cross Timbers, Alvarado, and Rio Vista.

The Public Hearing was called to Order by Dr. Richard Peterson, Chairman of the Joint County-wide Sexually Oriented Business Ordinance Task Force. Each speaker was sworn in before speaking on their related topic of interest to the Sexually Oriented Business Ordinance. Regina Atwell, City Attorney, City of Cleburne spoke on the facts of the Ordinance. The Ordinance can regulate time, manner, and place, but cannot violate 1st Amendment Freedoms. Dr. Richard Peterson, Chairman of the Joint County-wide Sexually Oriented Business Ordinance Task Force spoke on the Task Force and it's goals for the City of Cleburne and Johnson County. The Task Force looked at the areas of Public Safety, Health Issues, and Property Values. Meetings have been on going with the Cities of Johnson County and the Commissioners Court. Dr. Arthur Raines, Johnson County Health Officer spoke on his qualifications/background and spoke on Sexually Transmitted Diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, Gonorrhea, and Herpes. The regulation of SOB's will help stop the spread of STD's and help on the cost of public health care. Mr. Al Arnold from the Dallas Association of Decency spoke about the effectiveness of this

Ordinance in Dallas County. Sheriff Bob Alford spoke on his perspective as a Law Enforcement Officer of crime and the effects of SOB's he has seen on the community. Police Officer Vega and Officer Wise from Fort Worth Police Department-Vice Division were on hand to give their account of how their ordinance helps them enforce the laws set forth in Fort Worth. This also helps the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission keep under-aged people out of these places. A question was raised about billboards. In the Ordinance for Johnson County, a sign cannot be lit and the 1000ft. rule will apply to schools, churches, residences, other SOB's, and Historical and Cultural Areas.

The Public Hearing took recess at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner McFall left the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. Dr. Richard Peterson covered parts of the Ordinance on SOB's. Johnson County will be adopting the City of Houston's Sign Ordinance. Mr. Bob King from Caldwell Banker-Bob King Realty spoke on the aspect of property value, both commercial and residential. Mr. Rick Ripley, City of Cleburne, Engineering Department spoke on the 1000ft barrier map for the City of Cleburne. Only 5.8% of total City area can be used for SOB's, and the majority of that property is in North Cleburne, in the Industrial Park area. Dr. Richard Peterson opened the floor for comments and questions. The Public Hearing adjourned at 8:20 p.m. on the same date.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Curtis H. Douglas  
County Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Harmon  
County Judge