Council hears dueling zoning requests

Officials call on Planning Commission to make a review within 30 days

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WALHALLA — The Oconee County Council got a taste of dueling rezoning petitions at its Tuesday night meeting.

Jim Codner, president of Advocates for Quality Development, formally brought his petition to rezone 253 parcels in the Cane Creek Basin. His request, supported by the signatures of 68 percent of the parcel owners, would classify 250 of the parcels as Lake Residential District and the other three as Residential District.

Jean Jennings and David McMahan followed with a petition supported by 83 percent of parcel owners. Their proposal would convert 53 of 56 properties as Traditional Rural District and the other three as Residential District.

McMahan complained to the council that Codner wants to "overlap" his and Jennings' petition.

"We may not have as many parcels (as Codner), but they are larger," Jennings said.

Council Chairman Reg Dexter said he has concerns of the same person signing both petitions and directed Planning Department Director Art Holbrooks to look into it.

Council approved Coder and Jennings' petitions on first reading and passed them on to the Planning Commission for review. However, Dexter added an amendment that the commission report back in 30 days.

In other action, the council approved second reading of ordinances related to the Highpointe/Pointe West bond issue, which is not to exceed $3.5 million.

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