



W.P. Council Hears from Developers

BY JOHN KRAHNERT III: NEWSROOM INTERN

The Whispering Pines Village Council held two quasi-judicial public hearings to consider two conditional use permit applications from two developers at a regular meeting Tuesday night.

Representatives of both the Fortaleza Group, which desires to renovate the old Matthews Market on Vass-Carthage Road into a community market, and JDH Capital, which hopes to build the proposed "Shops at Whispering Pines" on N.C. 22, pleaded their case for approval and fielded questions from the council and the audience.

Because it was a quasi-judicial hearing, everyone who wished to speak was sworn in. The proceedings were also documented by a court stenographer, a tape recorder and the village clerk.

The testimony touched on all aspects of both of the proposed projects. Signage, lighting, water/sewer, and landscaping plans were among the more prevalent items discussed.

The council did

not make a decision on either application, but did formulate its conditions for approval. Mayor Bob Zschoche asked village attorney Mike Brough to draft a summary of the conditions so the council could give both applications an up or down vote no later than the regular meeting on Aug. 27.

The quasi-judicial hearings lasted close to three hours. After they were closed, the council proceeded to discuss other items on the agenda and later met in closed session with the village attorney.

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