

**07-16-2024**  
**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING MURALS REPORT**

**In Attendance:** John Hardig, Jenny Eilermann, Kevin Leidecker, Stefanie Hawk, Troy Dean Borgmann, Lindsay Keeble, Kerry Smyth, Dave Voss, Sam Keller, Steve Braun, RaeJean Hardig and Brian Smyth.

A public hearing was held on July 16th 2024 it began at 7:00pm. The meeting was called to discuss the the proposed mural legislation and recommendations which were put forth by the planning commission last month, the planning commission has made the following recommendations:

1. Since the Business A District contains many single-family homes, suggest permitting murals in only B, B-OZ, and B-1 Districts.
2. Identify the purpose of the murals - typically they are used to enliven and define a city.
3. Provide a definition of a mural.
4. Specify no mural shall have an advertisement, political message, or opinion message (such as "the end of the earth is near." )
5. It appears that Cheviot, as a government body, is limited in its ability to regulate the content of speech. Signs are generally considered speech and therefore protected by the First Amendment with some limited exceptions (e.g., obscenity) and degrees (e.g., commercial versus noncommercial speech). Therefore, we suggest you develop a list of prohibited mural types.
6. The proposed ordinance states "An application for a permit to erect or replace a wall mural shall be granted if the wall mural as proposed satisfies the criteria of this section." It would be helpful to see those each listed individually.
7. Puzzled by flashing lights and signs projecting 16" from a wall and 28" if electronic. It's understandable to have up or down lighting that allows the mural to be viewed at night. But electronic signs and flashing lights seem to be billboards on walls.

Other than City of Cheviot officials and a representative from the Cheviot Business Alliance, no other community members or members of the public attended the meeting. The individual recommendations were read aloud and discussed among all those in attendance and no consensus was reached as to the adoption of the recommendations. The Zoning Committee scheduled a meeting for 07/30/2024 at 7:30pm to discuss the adoption of recommendations to the current proposed legislation.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:30pm.  
Respectfully submitted 08/02/2024  
John Hardig  
Zoning Committee Chairman  
City of Cheviot City Council

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