

## Town P&Z talks, signs and traffic

By J. R. Logan

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The town of Taos Planning and Zoning Commission was scheduled to discuss a slew of business-related issues at its meeting Wednesday (March 18).

The agenda for the meeting included discussion of: “neon lighting, sandwich board signs, safety/traffic control/ informational- directional waypoint signage, uniform commercial signage for Historic District, park and plaza master plans, architectural standards, holiday and decorative lighting, and safety lighting.”

Taos mayor Dan Barrone said the extensive discussion list was meant to address questions about existing codes and whether they should be changed. “It’s just an informational meeting to get the public’s input,” Barrone said.

In recent weeks, there have been questions about whether the town’s own lighting on Taos Plaza was in line with an existing ordinance related to artificial lights. Town councilor Judi Cantu argued the lights did not meet code and asked that the lights on the plaza be turned off.

Some downtown merchants have criticized that decision, and others have questioned whether the town is equally enforcing codes downtown.

Barrone said the discussion Wednesday would allow planning and zoning commissioners to hear and weigh in on whether the existing ordinances make sense.

“They’re laws,” Barrone said. “That’s what we’re supposed to be doing is uphold the law. But if they need to be changed, that’s what the council is there to do.

A quorum of the town council, including Barrone, was expected to attend the meeting.

The meeting took place after press time.