



STAFF REPORT

Board of Aldermen

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A NEED TO ADDRESS DEVELOPMENTS PROPOSING DATA CENTERS AND CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING CENTERS IN THE CITY OF BRANSON AND THUS A ONE HUNDRED (100) DAY ADMINISTRATIVE DELAY OF APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS PERTAINING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF DATA CENTERS AND CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING CENTERS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI.

DATE: JUNE 4, 2024

Initiated By: Planning and Development

Approved By: *Cathy Stepp*

Financial Impact: No Impact/Not Applicable

Community Plan 2030: LU-5:Development Codes & Regulations

FACTS:

In the 1960's and 1970's, the City of Branson, Missouri ("City") adopted the Zoning Ordinance, now existing in Chapter 94, referred to as the Unified Development Code and Utilities Code to promote health, safety, morals and a general welfare of the community, including its aesthetic appearance; lessen congestion in the streets; secure safety from fires, panic and other dangers; provide adequate light and air; prevent the overcrowding of land; avoid undue concentration of population; bring about the gradual conformity of the uses of land and buildings throughout the City; facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewage, schools, parks and other public requirements; protect and conserve the value of land throughout the City; and provide a policy to efficiently process permits and other applications by the City.

DETAILED ANALYSIS:

Existing code does not provide use and structure standards for Data Centers and Cryptocurrency Mining Centers. While necessary for progressing globalization, these industries have become a global concern due to infrastructure requirements, energy consumption, noise pollution and personal health thereby resulting in increased litigation and environmental degradation.

Staff is proposing additional code amendments throughout Chapter 94 to ensure the protection of the City, its residents, and future development. These amendments may include, but not limited to:

- Section 94-5. -Definitions
- Section 94-60. -Table of permitted uses.
- Section 94-61. -Use and Structure Standards

A one hundred (100) day administrative delay is necessary to give the Board of Aldermen time to examine the issues, benefits, and consequences of regulation for the development of Data Centers and Cryptocurrency Mining Centers. Including regulation of the use of land within the City, and to develop and pass any needed utility, zoning, and development ordinances related thereto, with the caveat that if more time is needed, said administrative delay may need to be further extended.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

No Additional Information