



to store liquid petroleum gas. This ordinance was written to protect the citizens of Sherman. Although he feels propane is a safe and efficient fuel, we feel it is not as safe as natural gas. The propane tank at 22 Timber Creek was probably there when the property was annexed into the city. Fire Marshall Hightower informed the board they feel buried tanks are more hazardous than tanks that are above ground, they have been noted to float out of the ground in environments where the ground is real wet. Leaks may develop over time because of the ground shifting.

Richard Gilbert, 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas

Mr. Gilbert informed the board is with the Texas Railroad Commission and he was asked to come to the meeting as a third party. Mr. Gilbert stated they regulate both natural gas and propane gas. He informed the board he is not representing the Texas Railroad Commission or the three Railroad Commissioners, it is his personal opinion. He is here to address the safety and economic issues.

The greatest hazard of liquid gas is the transfer of liquid from the truck to the bulk storage tank or the truck to the cylinder or container at the residence. The container itself does not self destruct; there may be mechanical damage from a third party.

Charlie Cato, 325 E. Forrest Ave., Sherman, Texas

Mr. Cato informed the board he works for Douglass Distributing and he is in charge of the installation all LP gas. The city's code says you can use one ten gallon cylinder of liquid gas. These tanks are more hazardous because people are storing extra cylinders to supply their fireplaces, etc. They will store extra cylinders in their garages or closets which is more of a hazard than outside storage. Handling of the cylinders are another problem, the smaller cylinders are made of thinner material than the larger tanks. If I were a fire fighter I much rather have a larger tank stored outside than smaller tanks being stored inside a house.

Phillip Hightower stated the ordinance allows you to use ten gallons of liquid gas, there are probably people using more or storing more than what is allowed.

The board asked Dr. Marlow if he would bring back a site plan with the location of the tank and the distances from the tank to the neighboring homes, the pool, and the utility lines.

No other citizens appeared before the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals to discuss the variance.

**ACTION TAKEN.**

Motion by Board Member Schmidgall to table the request until March 8, 2005 to allow Dr. Marlow to determine the distances of the proposed propane tank to the neighboring houses, pool/heater and utility lines. Second by Board

**CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS MINUTES – MARCH 3, 2005**

**Member Hunter.**

**VOTING AYE: JACKSON, HUNTER, HIPPS, MORGAN,  
SCHMIDGALL.**

**VOTING NAY: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**No other business came before the board.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**On Motion duly made and carried, the meeting adjourned at  
4:15 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**SECRETARY**