## **CITY OF ASHFORD**

## **ORDINANCE 2020-003**

## AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF ASHFORD ZONING ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHFORD, ALABAMA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Planning Committee of the City of Ashford has recommended a revision to the Zoning Ordinance dated December 15, 2014.

Section 2. The Zoning Ordinance of December 15, 2014 does not provide a way by which a sign owner, building owner or construction contractor may obtain relief from strict compliance with the sign requirements after an appropriate public hearing and regulatory review.

Section 3. The City Council of the City of Ashford makes the following revision to The Zoning Ordinance for the City of Ashford dated December 15, 2014, page 59 to add a new section 87.11 as follows:

Section 87.11 Signs Permitted Under Special Exception

Applicants for signage are expected to restrict the design and usage of signage per this ordinance to maintain City of Ashford aesthetics, quality, visibility and safey standards. Early and frequent discussions between the sign owner, contractor and the city building officials during pemitting and building processes can mitigate misunderstandings and make these processes proceed more amoothly. However flexible the ordinance requirements may be, city officials are legally required to ensure the requirements are not deviated from, thus creating a non- conformance. Therefore, issues with minor deviations from requirements may occur that may be beyond the control of the sign owner or building official to resolve but may force the owner or contractor to expend significant resources to remedy a minor deviation from building requirements. When such situations occur during the permitting process, the sign owner, building owner or construction contractor may request upon appeal to the Zoning Board of Adjustment that a Special Exception be issued to allow a sign design that is otherwise non-conforming.

Now therefore be advised that the City Council of the City of Ashford accepts this recomendation to revise the Zoning Ordinance of December 15, 2014.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this	200	_day of <u>March.</u>	2020.
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Carole Barfield, Mayor

Gary Gibson

Ronnie Whitehead

Alan Anderson

Denise Herndon

James Smith

ATTEST:

lan et Rumley Acting Clerk