



MINUTES

Committee on General Services

Thursday, April 27, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m.

City Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 3:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Tina Houghton, Chair

Councilmember Jody Washington, Vice Chair-excused

Councilmember Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Scott Sanford, Code Compliance

Chris Swope, City Clerk

Mark Dotson, Deputy City Attorney

Eric Pratt, LEAP

Scott Ellis. Mash Mavericks

Dwayne Garner, Men Making A Difference

Denise Keiser, Center for Financial Health

Kathy Miles

Andrew Brewer, Men Making A Difference

Linda Cortes, Los Tres Amigos

Jon Addiss

Mark Preston

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 27, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

MOTOIN BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 29, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No Public Comment at this time.

Discussion/Action

ORDINANCE- Amendment to Noise Waiver Notice Requirement

Mr. Swope summarized the changes were to make the notification requirement from 30 days to 12 days, and to also increase the notification boundaries from 300' to 500'.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE FOR THE AMENDMENTS TO THE NOISE WAIVER NOTICE REQUIREMENT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Community Funding Request; Men Making a Difference

Mr. Garner confirmed the event date will be July 15, 2017, and then provided a copy of the invoice from the Parks and Recreation for the rentals. He did note that this year will be done in partnership with the Child and Family Charities, who will also partner in the expenses.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY FUNDING OF \$500 FOR THE JULY 15TH EVENT OUT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

The Committee informed the applicants that if they chose to pursue additional funding through community funding they can apply in the next fiscal year, 2017/2018 closer to the event date.

RESOLUTION – Request for Recognition of Non-Profit Status; Center for Financial Health

Ms. Keiser confirmed they had been in business since 2005, and had a name change in 2007 from Financial Community Economic Empowerment to Center for Financial Health. She added that over the last 3 years they were operating out of Lansing Township, but in January moved to 6 W. Maple in the City, sharing office space with the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition. Ms. Keiser noted that they have been operating as a 501c3 status; however have been taxed by the City since they moved into the City. The office had contacted the City Treasurer office and were told to apply for tax exempt status. Council Member Houghton advised Ms. Keiser that the Council approves non-profit status for gaming licenses for events, and that if they have the 501c3 status they do not need anything further. Council Member Wood recommended that Ms. Keiser stopped at the Treasurer office on her way out of the building and obtain the form from them that will exempt them from the personal property taxes they have been charging.

RESOLUTION – Community Funding Request; Moores Park Neighborhood

Council staff was directed to send a letter of denial to the applicant because they do not meet the criteria.

RESOLUTION – Transfer of Interest in a Resort Class C and SDM Liquor License; Los Tres Amigos South Side, Inc.

Council Member Houghton asked if the request was made because of an ownership transfer. Ms. Cortes stated it was a 35% of business being transferred. Since no transfer of location no need for approval, however based on information provided by City Clerk a resolution would be granted. Ms. Cortes left the meeting and spoke to Mr. Ellis.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE TRANSFER OF INTEREST FOR LOS TRES AMIGOS SOUTH SIDE INC. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION- Claim Appeal #1291; 3812 Churchill Avenue; A. Mullen

The applicant contacted the Council office and requested to be moved to May 25, 2017 meeting.

RESOLUTION- Claim Appeal #1377; 1233 Vermont Avenue; L. McMillen- \$922.00

Mr. Sanford questioned the ownership of the property with the applicant, and Council staff confirmed via the assessing website that Mr. McMillen was the owner. Mr. Sanford then went through the timeline with the contractor arriving April 11 and removing the violations. Mr. McMillen confirmed he did not remove the items, and then accused the contractor of taking additional items, and asked the Committee to require proof the 10 yard dumpster was needed.

Council Member Wood asked how many days an owner has to file a claim after receiving the notice. Mr. Sanford confirmed they have 30 days after it appears on their tax bill.

Council Member Houghton confirmed with Mr. Sanford the items the contractor removed were the sink, cabinet, and plywood. Mr. Sanford confirmed. The Committee then held discussions on the amount that was removed, and the billing from Eric's Refuse.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER TO GRANT A CLAIM OF \$200, AND DENY THE CLAIM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$722 DUE TO THE CITY FOR 1233 VERMONT AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Mr. Sanford informed the applicant that since it was already paid the refund would come from the Code Compliance office.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; S. Hosmer; J. Addiss

Mr. Sanford informed the Committee the vacant property was cited on January 25, 2017, with a compliance date of February 1, 2017. The contractor arrived on February 9, 2017 and removed the mattress, trash and tree limbs.

Mr. Addiss admitted that he had been using his vacant lot for years for composting, and he was not aware of the mattress on the property. He provided photos of other properties in the area with weeds, brush, and debris. In addition to a photo of a garage with no roof that he believed had not been enforced in years.

Mr. Sanford stated his officers look at and can enforce anything in plain view of other properties. If a property is found in violation when inspecting another site, that property will be logged and the notice process will begin. He did add that if any of the properties referenced by Mr. Addiss were County owned, they can send notice, however if the Count wishes not to comply the City cannot send a contractor on site to clean it up.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM FOR THE VACANT LOT ON S. HOSMER OWNED BY JON ADDISS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Mr. Addiss questioned the amount by the contractor. Council Member Wood acknowledged that the Council is looking at all contracts in the City.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; 527 Pacific; M. Preston

Mr. Sanford informed the Committee the violation was cited on September 15, 2016 with a compliance date of September 22, 2016. On September 23rd the contractor was called and he arrived on October 7, 2016.

Mr. Preston referred to the violation notice which cited them for items in their front yard, so they moved them to the back yard. He requested the Committee consider requiring Code

Enforcement to be specific on their notices for compliance by the owners. After referring the Committee to the photos, Mr. Preston asked for consideration on the amount the contractor charged.

MOTION BY CAROL TO GRANT THE CLAIM FOR \$177 FOR THE 5 YARDS PLUS ADDITIONAL 3 YARDS, AND DENIED TH CLAIM FOR \$587.00 FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 527 PACIFIC. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Small Distillers License; 523 E. Shiawassee; Scott Ellis

Mr. Ellis outlined the plans for the project, which will consist of 75% bulk production, a tasting room with a capacity of 50, along with sales of bottled beverages and have drinks. There will be no food or layout of a restaurant.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE SMALL DISTILLERS LICENSE; 523 E SHIAWASSEE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUION – Claim Appeal; 2413 S Pennsylvania; T. Abbawi

Council Staff confirmed attempts to reach the applicant were unsuccessful. Council Member Houghton asked that staff make continued attempts and the item be placed on the May agenda.

DISCUSSION – Council Rules

Council Member Houghton stated this item will be continued to be added to the agenda for discussion and she has begun discussion with the City Attorney and the Clerk's office on suggestions.

Other/Place on File

Council Member Houghton placed the following on file:

- New SDM License; Sunday Sales Permit (AM) Admiral Petroleum Co. 5200 S Pennsylvania Avenue
- New SDM License; Sunday Sales Permit (AM) Admiral Petroleum Co. 2626 N. Grand River Avenue
- New SDM License; Sunday Sales Permit (AM) Admiral Petroleum Co. 3400 S Waverly
- New SDM License; Sunday Sales Permit (AM) Meijers Inc., 6250 S Pennsylvania Avenue
- New SDM License; Sunday Sales Permit (AM), Gas Pumps for American Gas & Oil, Inc., 4019 S Martin Luther King
- Transfer Ownership Escrowed 2016 SDD and SDM Licensed Business with Sunday Sales Permit (AM) and Sunday Sales Permit (PM) from Store 103, LLC, 1826 S. Cedar Street

Adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak, Office Manager,
Lansing City Council
by the Committee on May 25, 2017