



MINUTES

Committee on General Services

Thursday, October 26, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m.

City Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Council Member Washington

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Tina Houghton, Chair-excused

Councilmember Jody Washington, Vice Chair

Councilmember Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Nicholas Tate, Assistant City Attorney

Scott Sanford, Code Compliance

Julie Rowe

Abbey Frazier

Victor Stelmeshenko

Shijing Hu

Kathy Miles

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No public comments at this time.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Appointment of Julie Rowe; At- Large Human Relations & Community Services Board; Term Expire June 30, 2018

Ms. Rowe provided information on her work history with community services and her desire to be more involved in the community. The HRCS Board was Ms. Rowe's first choice, and she chose that with the hope to improving the quality of life for all people they impact. Ms. Rowe also hoped to address any discrimination issues they are dealt with.

Council Member Wood updated Ms. Rowe on the work the Ad Hoc on Diversity has done over the last couple years, where HRCS now only takes in the complaints, and the complaints

themselves are addressed by the City Attorney office. Council Member Wood then encouraged Ms. Rowe and Ms. Frazier, to reach out to the City as a whole since they will be At-Large members of the Board and representing every resident in the City. Ms. Rowe was asked what her intent was to reach out to the public. Ms. Rowe planned to attend meetings in the neighborhoods, and was going to encourage the HRCS Board to hold their meetings in the neighborhoods. Council Member Wood invited Ms. Rowe to attend future Ad Hoc on Diversity Meetings.

Council Member Washington encouraged Ms. Rowe to reach out to the residents so they are aware of all the services HRCS offers, and she also encouraged Ms. Rowe to attend the Ward Council Members monthly meetings.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF JULIE ROWE TO THE HUMAN RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD IN THE AT-LARGE POSITION WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2018. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Appointment of Abbey Frazier; At Large Human Relations & Community Services Board; Term Expire June 30, 2018

Ms. Frazier provided her business and residence background in the City and at the State Capital working policy and human services budgets. Ms. Frazier also chose the HRCS Board as her first choice of appointment with her hopes to reach out with more opportunities to touch the refugee center, the rescue mission and the community. Ms. Frazier stated her plans to reach the community are to continue to volunteer, attend community events, and reach out to the neighborhoods.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ABBEY FRAZIER TO THE HUMAN RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD IN THE AT LARGE POSITOIN WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2018. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; #1446; M. Moore; 1408 Pontiac Street; \$2,930.50

Applicant contacted Council Staff prior to the meeting stating he was unable to attend, and asked to be placed on the next agenda.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; #1427; V. Stalmashenko; 4928 Hughes; \$280.00

Mr. Sanford provided details on the claim with the grass violation being cited on May 2, 2017 and a deadline to comply by May 9, 2017. The property was re-inspected on May 10, 2017 and the violations were still present so the contractor was called with an arrival of May 12, 2017.

Mr. Stelmeshenko informed the Committee that they have two people who have taken care of their yard, one being the neighbor. He then informed the Committee they had attempted to mow the grass when they got the notice, and were not able to complete all the yard area because it was too wet. Mr. Stelmeshenko than complained about how the Code Inspector had spoken to the neighbor who was trying to explaining everything to him. Regarding the next claim on the same property, Mr. Stlmeshenko disputed the fee for what the contractor stated was 6 bags of trash removed off the property.

Council Member Washington admitted the prices appeared to be high, however the City is not the trash collector or the mowing service for residents, and they have to use a contractor. When grass and trash is out of control, all of the property has to be taken care of.

Council Member Wood asked the claimants why they did not ask for an extension. Mr. Stelmeshenko stated they were out of town, and when they got the letter they attempted to mow the grass. Ms. Hu added to the conversation her frustration with what she believe was the City Code Inspector comments to the neighbor, when the neighbors are looking out for each other and trying to create a synergy in the neighborhood. Because they attempted to mow and had to stop because of the condition of the grass, they did not seek an extension.

Council Member Wood informed the claimants that the landlord is always responsible for the property, but Ms. Hu corrected the situation by stating they were not landlords, but had sold the property on a land contract, but the purchasers fell through on the house payments, and so she and Mr. Stelmeshenko go the house back.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM #1427 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$280.00 FOR TALL GRASS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; #1428; V. Stalmashenko; 4928 Hughes; \$670.00

Mr. Sanford provided the details of the violation which was cited April 4, 2017, with a premise recheck on April 11, 2017 and submitted to the contractor. The contractor arrived on April 14th, when the violations were still present and they were removed. There is a \$265 administrative fee on top of the contractor fee which is what brings it to \$670.00. Mr. Sanford stated that the Department and Claim Review Committee recommend denial.

Ms. Hu stated they never got the notice and asked the Committee to look at the photos for the damage to the yard they believe was done by the contractor.

The Committee reviewed the photos and determined based on the photos the ruts in the yard were there before they pick up the trash.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM FOR 4929 HUGHES ROAD FOR \$670.00 BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED AND THE RECOMMENDATION FROM CLAIMS REVIEW ON THEIR DENIAL. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Ms. Hu appealed on what she could do to provide evidence that they never got the notification on the trash. Council Member Wood stated her only recourse with the City Council is to come to the Council meeting on Monday, 10/30/2017 when the full Council will vote and she can speak. If the full Council also denies their claim she can pursue it with Circuit Court.

A graduate student from MSU introduced himself and stated he was present to just observe.

RESOLUTION – Liquor License; CUL LLC for a Transfer of Ownership Escrowed 2017 Class C License only for 313 N. Cedar, Lansing; New SDM License in conjunction with a non-transferable, Sunday Sales Permit (PM), Sunday Sales Permit (AM), Dance-Entertainment Permit, Outdoor Service Area and Catering Permit for 313 N. Cedar Street
The Committee reviewed the application and attachments.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CUL LLC FOR 313 N CEDAR STREET BASED ON DEPARTMENTS HAVE APPROVED AND SIGNED OFF. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Pending/Place on File

- Notice from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding the Transfer of all membership interest through merger from existing member Pizza Hut, Inc. to Pizza Hut, LLC; and by dropping existing member Pizza Hut, LLC and adding new member Pizza Hut Holdings, LLC 6200 S. Cedar Street
- Notice from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission: New Brewpub License, Lansing Ale, Inc., 2101 E Michigan Avenue
- Conditional Liquor License; 320 E Michigan LAF Fine Dining, Inc; Transfer Ownership 2017 Class C and SDM Licensed Business with Sunday Sales Permit (PM) and Outdoor Services
- New Wholesaler Liquor License; Gyina Distribution Inc

Placed on File

- Transfer of Ownership Escrowed 2017 Class C License; Transfer Location from 601 E. Michigan to 313 N. Cedar; New SDM, Non-Transferable, Sunday Sales Permit (PM), Sunday Sales Permit (AM), Dance-Entertainment Permit, Outdoor Service Area and Catering Permit for Cul, LLC.

Other

Council Rules

No discussion.

Adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak, Office Manager, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on November 13, 2017