



MINUTES

Committee on General Services

Monday, November 13, 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

Nick Tate, City Attorney

Scott Sanford, Code Compliance

Marc Moore

Rev. Kent T Bowden

Elaine Womboldt

Brooke Comer

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 26, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Fireworks Display License; Downtown Lansing Inc./Night Magic Displays, Silver Bells in the City, November 17, 2017

The Committee reviewed the application and verified all signatures required.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR SILVER BELLS IN THE CITY ON NOVEMBER 17, 2017.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION –Claim Appeal; #1461; D. Comer; 212 Allen St.; \$4,518.00 (Update from Law)

Mr. Tate confirmed that per the Committee request in September, he performed an investigation into if Mr. and Mrs. Comer could file the claim. Based on the facts, the violations and fees travel with the property, but the new owners are not responsible to file the claim, and the City cannot administratively do anything. It was recommended that Mr. and Mrs. Comer pursue with their title company since they had title insurance.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM WITH AN ADDITIONAL “WHEREAS” THAT THE CLAIMANT PURSUE WITH THE TITLE COMPANY SINCE THAT IS WHERE THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THE REMEDY APPLIES.

Ms. Comer did appeal to the Committee however she was informed by the Committee again that they had not role in the remedy and if she wished she could also pursue with the Circuit Court.

MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

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

Mr. Stanford recommended denial of the claim, referenced the ownership information which represented the owners address at 5010 Kessler, which is where the letters and notifications were sent.

Mr. Moore stated he had filed ownership paper work changing his address to 1408 Pontiac, however during the clean-up he was not living there. Mr. Moore’s appealed that he never received the notifications.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM 1446 FOR 1408 PONTIAC STREET BASED ON THE FACT THE PROPER REQUIREMENTS WERE MET BY CODE COMPLIANCE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; K. Bowden; 1207 N. Chestnut

Mr. Sanford clarified for the Committee that the address had three (3) claims on it #1421, #1479 and #1480. Claim #1421 was a notice fee, and since the deadline was not met to file the claim, therefore Mr. Sanford recommended denial based on that. Council Member Wood referenced at \$99.50 charge on the claim form for a recycling fee, and informed Mr. Bowden that it is something the City Council cannot address because the City does not do the recycling, but uses a third party. Mr. Bowden confirmed that the recycle fee was addressed, he also noted the amount of \$331.74 on the claim was the tax assessment amount, so he was only appealing the \$75 fee. Mr. Bowden then changed the discussion to his concerns and defense on all claims that the City had and was using the wrong address of 508 NORTH Grand River and his is 508 WEST Grand River. Council Member Houghton referenced the notice which went to the claim address of 1207 N. Chestnut, where the occupant would have known. Mr. Bowden provided an affidavit from the tenant stating that nothing was ever received at that address. Council Member Wood then referenced other notices which showed Mr. Bowden address of 4241 Lakeshore and asked if he got mail there. Mr. Bowden again appealed his address at 508 West Grand River, he then submitted a letter from Robin Wright with Assessing which verified when the address was corrected in 2016.

Mr. Sanford recommended granting the claim on the amount of \$75 on claim #1421.

Council Member Wood asked which claims in front of the Committee were not granted by the Claims Review Committee. Mr. Tate acknowledged he does not sit on that Committee, but could find out for this Committee. Mr. Bowden admitted a claim was granted and he did sign the letter acknowledging it, but the amount was still placed on his taxes. Council Member Wood stated if there was an issue with communication with Law and the Treasurer's office. Mr. Bowden again directed the conversation to his concerns on the address of north vs west that was being used, and presented copies of the assessing records to the Committee.

The Committee then were presented with information from Mr. Bowden on a \$1,584.00 bill for Red Tag and monitoring fees. He stated that the property was a land contract and registered with the Ingham County Register of Deeds

Mr. Tate informed that Mr. Bowden's claim #1320 was heard by the Claims Review Committee and granted. Mr. Sanford stated that the claim for #1320 was invoice #15-2031 dated 10/14/2015 from Eric's Refuse. There was another invoice in the same amount #16-2033 dated 8/8/2016 in the same amount, \$1,584.00.

Council Member Wood asked how long the property has been in land contract, and Mr. Bowden stated since the summer of 2017.

Council Member Houghton informed Mr. Tate and Mr. Sanford that at the last meeting in September, it was presumed that Law and Code would be working on a spreadsheet itemizing all of Mr. Bowden's claims which was to be provided at this meeting. No spreadsheet was provided and so the Committee directed those departments to research and investigate each claim to create a spreadsheet. The claims should be separated to show which fell under \$2,500 and went to Claims Review and which ones over \$2,500 that were in front of this Committee directly. The City Attorney office was also directed to schedule a meeting with Mr. Bowden, follow up with the Treasurer on any assessment that have already hit the tax rolls. Mr. Tate stated he would have to speak to City Attorney Smiertka before any further coordination. Council Member Houghton apologized to Mr. Bowden and told him Council Staff would reach out to him when he would need to be present for another Committee on General Services meeting for his claims.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Tate to look at the validity with the dates of the land contract and the appropriate person.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; K. Bowden; 508 W Grand River; \$2,914.

As per the claim listed about for the same claimant for 1207 N. Chestnut, this claim was tabled until the City Attorney Office and Code Compliance can compile the accurate information and a timeline on the violations, claims, etc.

Pending

The remaining items remained on the agenda pending the applications.

- 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
- RESOLUTION – 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

Other

No discussion.

Adjourned

Adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Office Manager, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on January 16, 2018