



MINUTES

Committee on General Services

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m.

City Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Patricia Spitzley, Chair
Council Member Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Council Member Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Scott Sanford, Code Compliance
Lisa Hagen, Assistant City Attorney

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No public comment at this time.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 10, 2018 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #1574; Anneli and Thang Mung for trash violation fees at 1939 Cumberland Road; \$1374.00

Mr. Sanford informed the Committee that the property was cited on April 2, 2018, given until April 9, 2018 and the contractor arrived on April 16, 2018 to remove the brush from the front yard. Mr. Sanford's opinion was that Public Service did not take the material because it did not meet the size specifications set forth by the City, he also believed the brush was not bundled. Mr. Sanford also added that the price for clean-up is higher because the material has to be chipped and then reloaded to recycle.

Mr. Brewer recapped the Claims Review Committee outcome from June 21, 2018 where they did do an adjustment and reduced the yardage amount from 25 yards to 9 yards, bringing the bill down \$802 to the new balance of \$572.

Mr. Mung acknowledge the Committee and provided a brief history of how they acquired their home and the progress they have been working on to remove the brush from the rear of their house, and even taking some to the dump themselves. Mr. Mung also confirmed they have tied up bundles for the City to pick up in the past, and when it is not correct Public Service leaves a tag to correct it, they correct it and call to make arrangements for a new pick up. The claimants noted that in this case they called when it wasn't picked up, and when the workers arrived to pick it up they were home and witness them pick it up in 20 minutes and leave before they even left for work. Ms. Mung submitted before and after pictures of the home, and admitted they have been placing brush out for pick up and having it picked up for a while and did not realize that it was not a policy to pick up in the winter months. Ms. Mung referenced the photos showing it was tied with twine and if it wasn't it was one large branch. Ms. Mung went on to appeal that when it was not picked up she called the City and asked why and they stated they would come pick it up, so when they saw the contractors arrive they thought it was based on their request. She admitted she did know it was a contractor until a week later when they got the bill. Ms. Mung then submitted a photo from the City with a date stamp that show their cars in the driveway, then also a document from their work which stated they were not home at that time.

Council Member Spitzley asked how many hours it took. Mr. Brewer stated Claims Review reduced the hours from 4 hours to 1 hour. Council Member Spitzley then asked Mr. Sanford what options owners have for brush. Mr. Sanford stated the options would be in the required bags or bundled in twine, 4' length 2" diameter and at the curb on normal trash pickup day. He also added the notice the owners stated they never got was mailed April 2, 2018.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Brewer if the Claims Review Committee ever asked Public Service when yard waste pick up started this year, and he stated they did not ask. Council Member Wood stated that the date needed to be known, and if the department received the call from the owner inquiring into why they did not get it picked up and made arrangements.

Council Member Spitzley referred back to the photos, and in her opinion did not believe the brush was bundled correctly. Ms. Mung appealed stating in the past if it was not correct, Public Service would leave them a tag and they would re-bundle it. This time they did not get the tag.

The Committee chose to move forward on action for August 13th with Council, and in the meantime will inquire with Public Service on their schedule and if they log calls for pick up.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO ADJUST THE CLAIM BY \$802 LEAVING THE CLAIM AMOUNT AT \$572 AND DENY THE CLAIM FOR 1939 CUMBERLAND ROAD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$572.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member Spitzley noted to the claimant that the claim will be in front of the Council on August 13, 2018.

PENDING

- Michigan Liquor Control Commission; Transfer of Ownership Class C & SDM license from RYJT, Ltd to Art's Pub, LLC at 809 E Kalamazoo Street.-**Pending Application**
- Michigan Liquor Control Commission; New SDM License; MCL 436.1533(5) for Dolgencorp, LLC; 2712 S Cedar Street, Lansing MI 4810-3029- **Pending Application**

OTHER

Council Member Wood asked for a discussion on a process to make sure the appropriate owner is present for any claim. Council Member Spitzley stated she met with Mr. Smiertka in Law and he will be working with his staff to make sure all claimants have standing before coming to this Committee. She also requested that photos from the claims be programmed for the TV with City TV for Council meetings.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Sanford about holding a discussion on reducing the time allowed for the owner to mow on tall grass enforcement before a contractor is sent out. Mr. Sanford confirmed he has a proposal similar to the snow and ice enforcement. Council Member Wood asked that he attend the Committee on Public Safety meeting on Wednesday, July 25th.

Ms. Miles asked if there was an ordinance that states residents have to clean the grass out of the cracks in the sidewalk. Council Member Wood stated she would look into it.

Adjourned

Adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Office Manager, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on August 28, 2018