



MINUTES
Committee on General Services
Monday, October 14, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m.
City Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 8:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Jody Washington, Chair
Council Member Brian T. Jackson, Vice Chair
Council Member Carol Wood, Member- excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen, Assistant City Attorney/ Council Research Assistant
Lynne Puente, Code Compliance
Gayle Miller
Heather Sumner, Deputy City Attorney
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments at this time.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION –Claim #1708; Gayle Miller; 2705 Gibson; \$558.40

Ms. Puente acknowledged a conversation with the code officer who charged the fine, and informed her that it appeared on site that the door was kicked in. The LPD contacted Code Compliance at 7 pm on 4/26/2019; and the policy is that when LPD calls Code they immediately call the Board-Up Crew for immediate safety. LPD stays on site until the Board-Up crew arrives, and once it is secured, they do not leave any notes on the door. Council Member Jackson asked if Code attempts to call the owner at the same time. Ms. Puente admitted that there is not always a phone number readily available or even on file, so their policy is for an immediate call to the Board-Up crew, then the Code Officer meets LPD at site and waits until the Board-Up crew arrives.

Ms. Miller appealed the claim and fines, in addition to acknowledging they have other rentals in the City that they maintain, have licensed and registered. She admitted that in this case, the door was damaged prior to this tenant and it was repaired poorly, which caused the doorplate to fall off and the door not stay securely closed. She appealed for Code to contact the owners and in her case; she believed she or her handy man could have been on site in 10 minutes. Ms. Miller appealed for a reduction or waiving of the fee and asked the Committee to correct the policy to inform owners to address it before a cost is incurred. A question was then asked, if the owner gave permission, if once they are notified the Code office and LPD can leave the property. Ms. Puente stated the City would not do that because there have been situations in the past where a structure was left open and it attracts people who want to steal items in the house or even the copper and metal. Ms. Miller than asked what the \$200 title search charge was, and Ms. Puente clarified it was the Administrative fee, which includes Code, LPD, paperwork and administrative duties applied to the claim.

The Committee and Ms. Miller spoke about the situation that caused the Board-Up crew to be on site, costs, and the repair of the door that caused Code to call to the property.

Mr. Brewer acknowledged the claim was before the Claims Review Committee on July 25, 2019 and based in the same information they denied the claim in full.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO REDUCE THE FINE BY \$200 FOR THE CLAIM AT 2705 GIBSON.

Council Member Washington stated her opposition and the support for code compliance when a violation is evident, that the property itself is being taken care and the cause is not tenant or property owner created. Ms. Miller again objected to the violation.

MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Other:

- o Michigan Liquor Control Commission; Transfer License with Sunday Sales, Outdoor Service, Catering Bars and Dance-Entertainment from 7786 E. US 10, Walhalla to 419 Spring Street, Lansing. Transfer Governmental Unit from Branch Twp., Mason County to Lansing City, Ingham County (**Pending Application**)

Adjourned

Adjourned at 8:14 a.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Office Manager,

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on October 28, 2019