



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, August 1, 2018 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Joseph Abood, Chief Deputy City Attorney
Ryan Petersen, City Attorney Intern
Kathy Miles
Rachelel White
Jason Wilkes
Mary Ellen Purificato
Jon Miles
Jason Boucher, City Attorney Intern
Council Member Washington – arrived at 4:23 p.m.

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 25, 2018 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

Pleasant Grove and Holmes Shopping Center

Council Member Wood stated to Mr. Abood that after the Committee meeting on June 27, 2018 when the new owners of Pleasant Grove and Holmes were all present, that the letter of agreement would have gone out then. Mr. Abood confirmed he personally delivered the letter on Monday, July 30, 2018; Mr. Mandeep Singh was not present but staff assured Law it would be provided to him. Mr. Abood stated he then placed a follow up phone call to Mr. Mandeep Singh who confirmed he did receive the letter, reviewed it and had no objections. In the same phone call he informed Mr. Abood he would not be able to attend this meeting. Mr. Mandeep Singh stated to Mr. Abood that Mr. Ben Singh would be signing the agreement and would not be back to sign it until August 15th. Their intent is to close on the property was relayed to Mr. Abood as “awhile, and Mr. Ben Singh would have better information on that.” Council Member Wood reminded Law that on June 27th all members of the Singh family that were presented

stated 90 days. She then asked Law if the agreement could be emailed or faxed to Ben Singh so he could sign it, notarize it and send back. Mr. Abood stated he would follow up on that option. Mr. Abood was reminded by Council Member Wood that for SWAG to move forward on their project and property, it is incumbent for the Singh's to settle this now not later. Council Member Hussain spoke in frustration on the process and wants urgency, and his intent to move forward with the option of a public nuisance violation. Council Member Hussain then asked if Law provided contact information to the Fire Marshall as was requested of them at the July 25th meeting. Mr. Abood responded that he believe Ms. Hagen in his office did, however would still follow up. Council Member Hussain asked that the LPD be present at any meeting where this being discussed to provide updates and Staff was requested to invite Officer Pratl to the next meeting. Council Member Wood instructed Staff to make sure that Officer Pratl was able to provide updates on the "no-trespassing/loitering" letters he was distributing after the June 27th meeting. Mr. Abood confirmed when was presenting the letter Monday to Mandeep Singh, there was no loitering and witnessed three police cruisers drive by in that time period.

Council Member Wood asked that Code Compliance and Building Safety also be present at the August 8, 2018 meeting to provide updates.

Mr. Wilkes supported Council Member Woods request.

Ms. White stated her opinion that there is activity changes when the police presence changes.

Ms. Purificato asked for more action.

Council Member Garza asked if there was a public safety camera on site, and Council Members Wood and Hussain confirmed, but noted it does not deter crime but is used in investigations if there is a crime. Ms. White offered to provide volunteers to watch the cameras at the LPD, at which Council Member Wood stated she would inquire with LPD if that is even an option.

Council Member Wood asked Law to check into any active or expired liquor licenses in the area, and to look into if Social Security checks can be mailed and used as credit at liquor stores. She then asked Law to also provide alternatives for action at the next meeting, August 8, 2018.

Mr. Wilkes asked if the Police Chief could be present at the next meeting.

Ms. Miles asked if anyone had confirmed that the health department inspected an earlier complaint of a BBQ sale for a church benefit. Council Member Wood stated she had not received any word on that and Council Staff was instructed to contact the Health Department to attend the next meeting.

Council Member Wood again asked Law to pursue getting the agreement signed, and Mr. Abood confirmed he would, but did not anticipate an answer until after August 15th.

Logan Center

Council Member Wood recapped that the City met with the property owner over a year ago, and the new Administration met with owner as well. At the meeting on July 25th the email from the Fire Marshall confirmed an inspection was done, but as in the earlier property, he was not able to get into all the units and made contact with the property manager. She then asked if there was anything in code that could require them to make the lights operational. Mr. Abood was not aware of a specific code, and was then referred to the international property

maintenance code on lighting and exterior lighting. Mr. Abood stated he would reach out to Jim Bennett before he retires on August 3, 2018. Mr. Abood then went into the details that would need to be done for the court to declare something a nuisance based on health, safety and welfare. Council Member Hussain and Garza stated they were approached by Police Officers informing them they did not feel safe on the site because of the lack of lighting.

Council Member Wood suggested bringing the owners again, and Council Member Hussain suggested a communication with the Administration first to see what their conversations were. The owners will then be invited in to a meeting and document will be prepared for that meeting so it can be signed that day.

Council Member Hussain asked Mr. Petersen if the new gambling ordinance would conflict with the forfeiture law. Mr. Petersen stated he spoke to City Attorney Smiertka and stated that as the forfeiture law as it stands now, there is no conflict. Council Member Wood asked if it could be removed from the proposed new ordinance without any problem. Mr. Petersen stated he would confirm again with Mr. Smiertka, and Mr. Abood stated he too would follow up because it was Mr. Petersen's last day as an intern.

ADJOURN

Submitted by 4:26 p.m.

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved: August 8, 2018