



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Thursday, July 18, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Mary Bowen, Assistant City Attorney
Council Member Garza- left meeting at 4:40 p.m.
Officer Jillian Colby
Officer Jared Davis
Lisa Hagen, Council Legal Analyst
Chief Yankowski, LPD Chief
Scott Sanford, Code Compliance
Helen Hansens
Joseph Abood, Chief Deputy City Attorney
Janice Sheffey
Chad Gamble, Parking Manager
Council Member Washington – arrived at 4:40 p.m.

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 20, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Other

Ms. Hansens informed the Committee that her case is in the Ingham County Prosecutors Office for action and the owners of the animals are aware of the warrant. She continued by relaying an incident with the same dogs on someone else 2 weeks earlier, however when people call LPD they are still being directed to Animal Control and vice versa. Council Member Spitzley stated she too called Captain Green and left a message on what has been occurring. Ms. Hansens stated during this past incident they did not call 911 dispatch, but was then informed that both the 911 emergency and non-emergency calls go to dispatch. Chief

Yankowski confirmed that Dispatch is being directed to stated "Ingham County Non-Emergency Number" and their protocol is when animal control is not on duty such as weekends and after hours, it goes back to LPD. However, he admitted since Dispatch is not a City Department they cannot control what Dispatch is saying at every call. He could confirm that in this case after the June 30th incident the animal was taken and put down. He offered to reach out to the Animal Control Director for an update on all the dogs at that address. Council Member Garza stated he too reached out to the County Commissioner in that area asking for assistance with Animal Control. Council Member Spitzley asked for a process where the victims are notified when the animals are removed and euthanized. Chief Yankowski stated that the LPD does a program in their vehicles that will allow the officers to have updated list.

Council Member Wood stated after the new 911 Dispatch Director starts the Committee will look into having them into a Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

RESOLUTION- Make Safe Demolish 3005 Herrick Drive

Mr. Sanford confirmed since the hearing there has been no contact from the owners, no permits pulled and they are asking for 60 days make safe demolish. Council Member Spitzley stated she believed the owners were at the show cause hearing.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPITZLEY TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH IN 60 DAYS FOR 3005 HERRICK DRIVE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Make Safe Demolish 410 S Francis

Mr. Sanford confirmed since the hearing there were not permits pulled and no contact from the owners. He added they are not holding a bond because their search has found no insurance on the property. Lastly, Mr. Sanford asked for 30 days make safe or demolish.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSASIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH IN 30 DAYS FOR 410 S FRANCIS. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION- Set Show cause Hearing; Make Safe Demolish 5642 Joshua

Mr. Sanford outlined the details from the staff spreadsheet noting there has been no work performed, the roof permit has expired, no inspections, and the Demolition Board asked for a 60 days Make Safe or Demolish.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO SET THE SHOW CAUSE HEARING FOR JULY 29TH FOR 5642 JOSHUA. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member Garza stated he had spoken earlier with Dave Klein in Code Compliance about Stonebridge Meadows Apartments, and asked how long the process takes. Mr. Sanford admitted that when insurance companies are involved it takes time to resolve. If the building department or fire department would have ruled it an eminent disaster at the time of the fire, the owner would only have 180 days. He assured Mr. Garza he would follow up to make sure the site is secured and what the deadline date is.

DISCUSSION – Walnut Park LPD

Ms. Sheffy asked for additional safety at the property.

Chief Yankowski introduced newly sworn in Officer Jared Davis.

Chief Yankowski confirmed he met with the owners, Joe Whitsett and they have agreed to swap out a room that was set aside for an office, install a custom ordered steel door, close off

the bathroom access from that room, and install camera's and door codes. They are currently waiting for all that material to arrive then they will provide a construction schedule. He assured the Committee it will be a high priority and the City will be installing a public safety camera in the area as well. Chief Yankowski continued by stating that with the recent budget they will have another community policing officer based in Old Town and Walnut Park, making officers in Northtown, Genesse, Old Town and Walnut Park. He was not able to provide the specific officers at this time but there are 19 in training. As for the sub-station at Walnut Park, Chief Yankowski stated the office will not be on site 24/7, but can write reports, make phone calls, use for lunch and breaks, store their bike and be a visible presence in the neighborhoods. Their intention is to have this established in September.

Council Member Garza asked for crime mapping.

Council Member Hussain spoke on clubs, gambling and liquor licenses along with private clubs. Chief Yankowski stated he would look into what uses and places need a liquor license.

DISCUSSION – 3801 Walton

Officer Colby confirmed to the Committee she has been playing phone tag with the security company but has been told the owner did not purchase the monitor system therefore making it difficult to review. Council Member Garza asked if the owner registered the cameras with SCRAM and Office Colby was not able to confirm, but did state she sent him the instructions. Council Member Wood recapped earlier meetings where she had stated to City Attorney Smiertka that if it was not resolved by today's meeting date, she wanted to pursue it under a nuisance property violation. Officer Colby added to the conversation that the owner has moved residents into the units without a LPD background check. Council Member Garza asked if the building official has been onsite recently.

The Committee set a special meeting date for July 22, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. to address the property and future action.

Council Member Hussain asked Officer Colby if she had any updates on 3200 S Washington. Officer Colby confirmed she is working on lease violations. She stated she is running into issues with the timeline for notices and court dates, not knowing exactly what the delay is.

Council Member Wood stated plans will begin to have the Lansing Housing Commission and Ms. Brewer with District Court in at the August 15th meeting.

Officer Colby provided examples of what should be a 24 hour eviction, but is taking 5 weeks.

ORDINANCE– Amendments Chapter 664

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 664. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ORDINANCE- Amendments Chapter 658.04

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPITZLEY TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 658.04. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ORDINANCE_ Amendments Chapter 658.05

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 658.05. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION – Parking Ord. Chapter 404 Section 404.13

Council Member Wood confirmed the Committee has the ordinance where they want it, but

before there is a discussion or final action, there were questions from the last meeting that needed to be answered.

Mr. Gamble began by stating that some of the questions and concerns will be addressed with the new software that will be installed over the next 30 days. He then moved into the questions from the June meeting.

1) - a decision on what is going to be used as part of the permitting process; window sticker, mirror hanger, plate sticker, etc.

Mr. Gamble stated they are leaning heavily towards license plate stickers, but cannot confirm until they finish their discussions with the Secretary of State on what is permitted. The permit itself will be an annual permit with the City. Regarding temporary permits, Mr. Gamble stated they are proposing a 3-day permit, four (4) times a year which will be issued with no questions, can be applied for and paid for online, and they can print their own placard.

2)–what is the cost for a permit; based on the amount of staff time it takes to review an application, which will include all required documents, and might even require a staff person to go to the site to look the property to determine if they have other option for parking.

Mr. Gamble stated this was not finalized yet, they are however are considering a \$75 annual permit cost and \$10 for the 3-day temporary permit.

3) – Enforcement

Mr. Gamble acknowledged this has not been finalized, and it could depend on the number of permits issued. They are looking at options of dedicating a staff person and utilizing the revenues from the permits to support that enforcement. Council Member Wood stated that if Council is going to adopt this ordinance, there has to be a commitment from the Administration of 100% enforcement. Council Member Spitzley asked how they came up with the \$10 for a temporary permit and she would even consider higher at \$25. Mr. Gamble stated they had no background on determining that but were considering anything between the amounts of \$10-\$30.

4) – what is the system that will notify people; email, voicemail or other communications

Mr. Gamble confirmed the new system utilizes email notifications with a “blast” to all permit holders of annual and temporary permits. He would check into the texting option as well.

5) – what is the plan for signage.

Mr. Gamble confirmed they will not offer addition signage City-wide, and will work with Public Service. Council Member Wood noted that if there is currently no parking on a street or one side of street, this ordinance will not amend that. Her goal would be that if someone needs to park on the street, zoning might need to do a review to determine if they could park on their property.

6) – what is the application.

Mr. Gambled confirmed the currently software will be utilized for these applications as well. Council Member Wood wanted to make sure the fee accommodates the time for staff and Mr. Gamble stated he would look into that, but he could confirm the program allows for uploading of photos, uploading of a rental lease because the permit would not extend after their lease expires.

Ms. Hagen was asked if a temporary permit will be tracked on how many they get, and Mr. Gamble stated they will only be allowed 4 and it was requested by the Committee that the temporary permits be issued based on address not on name.

Council Member Wood then listed pending items the Committee will need addressed before moving on action to introduce and set a public hearing. This included having someone from the Mayor’s office in to speak to the enforcement portion, an indication of the enforcement structure and Mr. Gamble offered to have conversations with the Mayor and Mr. McGrain.

Mr. Gamble asked the Committee and Council Members present what they thought the number of permits would be. Council Members Washington and Hussain had no idea, and Council Member Wood believed it would be 200-500.

Council Member Wood stated the topic of discussion would be back on the agenda at the August 15th meeting and Mr. Gamble stated he would target that date for official answers. She then asked for an application template at that time also. Mr. Gamble was then asked if the permit process would address any back unpaid taxes, and Mr. Gamble stated he would prefer that it not be necessary for this type of permit. Lastly Mr. Gamble was asked how many permits had been applied for the downtown parking, and was confirmed zero at this time.

OTHER

Council Member Wood recapped a meeting with the Mayor earlier in the week where it was noted they will be referring draft ordinances for recreational marihuana. She noted this will be referred to the Committee on Public Safety with the plan to adopt at Council by October 28th. The Committee determined they would meet for special meetings on that subject on the following dates at 10 a.m.:

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Tuesday, August 6th

Tuesday, August 13th

Tuesday, August 20th

After the Committee it will be taken to the Committee of the Whole before it goes to the Planning Board.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved as presented: August 1, 2019