



MINUTES
Committee on Public Service
Tuesday, June 19, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Hall, Conference Room, 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Vice Chair-excused
Council Member Jody Washington, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Chris Mumby, Public Service
Michelle Smalley, Public Service
Christopher O'Neil
Kay O'Neil
Mark VanPortFleet

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 15, 2018 MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Snow and Ice Removal Assessment Roll; Winter 2017/2018
1118 Dakin Street

The Committee reviewed the appeal. Mr. Mumby noted this was enforced due to a complaint by the neighbor, at which Council Member Spadafore referred to the claimant email which stated they had cleared it, but did not provide photos of that proof.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1118 DAKIN STREET. CARRIED 2-0.

1124 Gordon Avenue

Mr. Mumby referenced the email appeal and the photos representing the work that was done. It was noted in the pictures the property was posted.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1124 GORDON AVENUE. CARRIED 2-0.

1133 Lathrop

Mr. Mumby referenced the claim and supporting documents from the Public Service department, noting that they were aware of who was in control of property at time it was cleared. The policy the staff follow is to post the property, come back in 24 hours and if not cleared contact the contractor, he then added that the violation is against the property and follows the property.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1133 LATHROP. CARRIED 2-0.

1249 Climax Street

Mr. Mumby referenced the photos of the work that was performed by the City contractor.

Council Member Spadafore asked the difference between the two rates on the roll; \$149 and \$219. Mr. Mumby stated is based on the size of the lot and time it takes to clear the sidewalk. In this case it was note, there are more sidewalks because it is a corner lot and took over 21 minutes. It if is under 20 minutes the assessment would be \$149.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1249 CLIMAX STREET. CARRIED 2-0.

1325 Woodbine Avenue

Mr. Mumby outlined the details of the violation and time line. The claimant also submitted a weather report from the time line of the service date, January 18, 2018. Mr. Mumby clarified that the property was posted January 4, 2018 due to a complaint filed by a resident. A inspection on January 5, 2018 was done at 2:21 p.m. and the snow was still present, so the contractor was called. The billing from the contractor was received on January 18, 2018, and Mr. Mumby stated that is why the "service date" was listed as January 8, 2018.

Mr. Van PortFleet acknowledged he read the information and saw the service notice so researched snow fall around January 18, 2018, not the January 4th – 5th dates.

Council Member Washington acknowledged Mr. Van PortFleet for his efforts and noted the clerical error on behalf of Public Service, but noted the photos taken show there was a violation and it was abated.

Mr. Mumby suggested Mr. Van PortFleet contact his office to get his email address added to their email notice which provides a link to the list of homes that are tagged during the season for this violation. Mr. Van PortFleet confirmed he would like to be on the list and provided his email to Ms. Smalley.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1325 WOODBINE AVENUE. CARRIED 2-0.

1411 Poxson

The Committee reviewed the claim and photos. After clarification from the department on which photos were for this claim and which for the next claim, Council Member Spadafore asked that in the future the photos be date stamped. Mr. Mumby acknowledged in the past they had required date stamps, and apologized they were not done this year.

Council Member Washington asked what the City ordinance on for clearing. Mr. Mumby stated the ordinance states it has to be "free of snow and ice" and a person can traverse safely.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1411 POXSON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$149.00. CARRIED 2-0.

1411 Poxson

The Committee reviewed the claims and photos for this second violation. Mr. Mumby noted this violation was a higher cost because it appeared there was ice under the snow and took longer.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 1411 POXSON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219.00. CARRIED 2-0.

408 BAKER

Mr. Mumby distributed the information on the property, noting to the Committee it was an unusual issue because the complaint was that a property owner was pushing snow onto another property, which was the violation. When it was originally sent to Assessing for the roll they charged this property for 2 properties in a row, and after a review determined it was unfair. The department also noticed in the photos this property was not tagged, but the neighboring property was. The normal practice is to tag the property. The process Mr. Mumby stated they would be willing to lower the charge to \$149, which was just for the one property. The Committee reviewed the distributed information.

Mr. O'Neil confirmed that he has owned the building since 1992 and taken care of the parking lot and building since then. He acknowledged that the building next door is vacant, and he takes care of clearing the snow for both. Mr. O'Neil did ask what the date of the photos were and why the vacant building was tagged.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO ACCEPT THE APPEAL AND VACATE THE CHARGES FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 408 BAKER DUE TO TAGGING THE WRONG PROPERTY.

Council Member Spadafore noted in the ordinance it specifically states no person can impede onto other properties, but added the Public Service should have also notified and they did not.

MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

532 W Holmes Road

Mr. Mumby distributed two (2) photos on the work performed by the contractor, but admitted they were not able to produce photos after the sidewalks were cleared, and therefore not able to prove the City did the work.

DRAFT

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO ACCEPT THE APPEAL AND VACATE THE CHARGES FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 532 W. HOLMES ROAD DUE TO LACK OF DOCUMENTATION FROM THE CITY CONTRACTOR. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

726 N Seymour

Mr. Mumby referred the Committee to the documentation in the packet from Public Service on the work performed for the assessment.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR THE ASSESSMENT ON 726 N. SEYMOUR. CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR WINTER 2017/2018 AS AMENDED WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE ASSESSMENT FOR 408 BAKER AND FOR 532 WEST HOLMES. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Spadafore inquired into if the landlords of rentals are notified of the violation. Ms. Smalley stated there is an email list they can sign up to receive every time it is enforced. Mr. Mumby added that the list and emailing to residents, landlords and owners is not required but a practice the Department created, and was encouraged for those properties owners who own multiple properties.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak

Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved: July 17, 2018_____