



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Wednesday, September 8, 2021 @ 3:30 p.m.
Lansing City Hall Lobby

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Dunbar called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Dunbar, Chairperson
Council Member Spadafore, Vice Chairperson
Council Member Hussain, Member - excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Asst.
Eric Brewer, Internal Auditor
Lisa Hagen, OCA
Heather Sumner, OCA
Scott Sanford, Code Compliance Manager
Janna Stellwag, 1532 Illinois Ave.

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 18, 2021 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

RESOLUTION – Fireworks Display License; Melrose Pyrotechnics Inc. at Jackson National Life Stadium, 505 E. Michigan Ave.

Council Member Dunbar indicated this item was pulled due to lack of sponsorship. No action taken

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; Claim #1851, Janna Stellwag for \$640.50 in Trash Removal fees at 1532 Illinois Avenue

Mr. Sanford stated the property was cited on 3/03/21 with a compliance due date of 3/10/21, the compliance officer did a recheck on 3/15, 3/16, 3/18, 3/22 & 3/23. Mr. Sanford indicated the claimant did call and request an extension which was granted, when the compliance officer then returned on 3/24 (two weeks after the due date of 3/10) the violation still occurred and was removed and this office recommends denial of the claim. Council Member Spadafore asked about two printouts as they are different amounts. Mr. Sanford stated that initially it was just one couch then two additional sections so additional yards were added to the amount. Council Member Dunbar asked Ms. Stellwag if she wanted to explain. Ms. Stellwag stated that the couch went out on 2/28 and then she received the letter dated 3/05 after the 3/03 violation. Ms. Stellwag stated she sent screenshots of the couch dated 3/05 along with the cite she attempted to purchase a tag for removal. Ms. Stellwag said she filled out the form online but never received confirmation that it went through. She stated that she noticed Eric's Refuse removing the couch and got online immediately to get a tag and thought it was through Blue CART but couldn't get in from the city website and she was at a site that wouldn't recognize her user name/password. Ms. Stellwag indicated when she put the couch out on 2/28 she had rented a U-Haul to move some other furniture and when she returned that she thought she could get a sticker for the couch at a grocery store and couldn't find one and was told to go online. Council Member Dunbar asked if there is a charge online for the sticker and Mr. Sanford said yes and they can go through the Treasury Dept. to obtain and pay for it, Council Member Dunbar then

asked Ms. Stellwag if she received a receipt when she went online. Ms. Stellwag repeated her previous statement that she went online but something happened and it wouldn't let her login. Council Member Dunbar stated that because she didn't get a receipt or login that was a sign that it didn't process and Ms. Stellwag suggested she should've made a phone call to check. Council Member Spadafore stated he noticed a reduction from the original amount. Mr. Brewer stated the original amount was \$690 with 8 yards and was reduced to \$530 with 4 yards. Council Member Dunbar asked if the first \$265 is the minimum charged and Mr. Sanford confirmed. Ms. Sumner stated there is some inconsistency with Eric's Refuse costs but everything else is right. Council Member Dunbar stated that being said the couch sat there for three weeks and nothing was billed to your CART account or credit card and asked Mr. Sanford to confirm that a notice was sent and they have time to get a sticker. Mr. Sanford confirmed both and that Ms. Stellwag was also granted an extension. Council Member Spadafore mentioned that extensions aren't just granted because. Council Member Dunbar again clarified the timeline that Ms. Stellwag put the couch out on 2/28 and was cited on 3/03 and received the letter on 3/05 and had plenty of time to get it removed along with the extension granted. Council Member Spadafore informed Ms. Stellwag that it is the Committees job to way the facts and determine the City followed the proper process and it is clear they did. Council Member Spadafore asked Ms. Hagen to amend the resolution to reflect the reduced amount of \$530.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO DENY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$530 THE CLAIM APPEAL; CLAIM #1851, JANNA STELLWAG IN TRASH REMOVAL FEES AT 1532 ILLINOIS AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

Council Member Dunbar said this would be in front of City Council on Monday, Sept. 13th at 7pm and if she wanted to be present and speak at public comment she could. She also suggested she contact Public Service and maybe IT to see if she could verify the error with the login. Council Member Spadafore informed the Committee that he just attempted to go online and it does not require an account or login/password and asked Ms. Richmond to update Ms. Stellwag with the Council information for Monday.

ADJOURNED

Adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Submitted by Renee Richmond,

Administrative Assistant, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on September 15, 2021