



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Thursday, September 9, 2021 @ 3:30 p.m.
Lansing City Hall Main Lobby

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Garza called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

PRESENT

Council Member Jeremy Garza, Chair

Council Member Carol Wood, Vice Chair

Council Member Brian T. Jackson, Member – arrived at 4:06pm

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Staff

Lisa Hagen, OCA

Joe Abood, OCA

Scott Sanford, Code Compliance Mgr.

Katherine Diehl, Captain LPD

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AUGUST 12, 2021, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present therefore no comments at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION – Setting a Show Cause Hearing; Make Safe or Demolish Orders to the owners of property located at 4511 S MLK Jr Blvd

Council Member Garza asked Mr. Sanford if there had been any activity or permits because it was tagged in 2019. Mr. Sanford stated no permits, calls or contact as of today and that the owner lives in South Carolina. He continued that this property has been boarded up three times and this is not a fire damage home. Therefore his office recommends Make Safe/Demolish in 60 days. Council Member Garza asked if the property has ever been deemed a nuisance. Council Member Garza asked Mr. Sanford what is the date timeframe and he stated 60 days from Council and it would take 45-60 from there to get all utilities shut off and if not then it would go to the county.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SETTING A SHOW CAUSE HEARING; MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH ORDERS TO THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4511 S MLK JR BLVD. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of property located at 125 E. Mt. Hope

Mr. Sanford stated his office would recommend to Place on File as the owners have been working with Michigan Demolition and they are just waiting on the Dept. of Public Service to do the sewer shutoff. Council Member Wood said her concern is if Council places on file and then something happens, and the work stops tomorrow then they have to start the process all over again. Mr. Sanford indicated he did not believe that will happen as Michigan Demolition does not start a project if the permits to shutoff aren't pulled.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO PLACE ON FILE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE ORDER TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 125 E. MT. HOPE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Sanford about 1522 W. Holmes, where back in July 2020 the City approved a MSD. It recently came to her attention that in April 2021 the property went up for sale by Treasury and then went to the County. Mr. Sanford stated that when it was approved in 2020 everyone was in the middle of COVID but a permit was pulled and everything was still being figured out. Once it got to the County the City has no jurisdiction. Council Member Wood stated to Mr. Sanford they should have moved faster and asked Ms. Richmond to get BWL for the next meeting.

Council Member Jackson arrived at 4:06pm

UPDATE – City Attorney; Auto Zone, 610 N Cedar St.

Mr. Abood told the Committee that the City Attorney went to the site and the clearing has begun and Auto Zone is going forward with the fencing, with no time frame once they have that installed they will inform the Committee. Council Member Garza asked if they were going with the wrought iron fence and Mr. Abood said no a chain link fencing. Council Member Wood informed Council Member Garza that at the last meeting it was discussed but because of cost they refused. Ms. Hagen stated it is an 8ft fence with wiring at the top. Council Member Wood asked if this information was given to Jan Bidwell and wanted this item on the next meeting agenda for a timeframe and follow up.

UPDATE – Moores Park Neighborhood; Cameras, Lighting, Maps

Captain Diehl stated she spoke with Captain Backus, and they are still waiting on some equipment but are on board with BWL to get the cameras installed and will check if the lighting is complete. Council Member Garza inquired about how many cameras and Captain Diehl said she heard 1-2, but would confirm. Council Member Jackson asked if the direction of the cameras are known and again Captain Diehl said she would have to confirm as she was not directly involved but thought the parking lot area, but would confirm. Captain Diehl finished by stating they are still maintaining and making sure the gates are being locked at night and open in the morning. Council Member Jackson lastly mentioned the concern with speeding in that area. Council Member Wood stated in the past there was a certain percentage of resident signatures needed to have traffic control installed and they didn't want one at the time of the sewers being done.

OTHER

Budget Priorities

Council Member Garza said he wanted to discuss the Budget Priorities and Council Member Wood asked how many speed trailers were in current use. Captain Diehl said just one and Council Member Wood thought at one point there were four total and that MDOT may have some we should get back. Council Member Garza state he wanted to keep the \$11,000 for the speed wagons but maybe allocate funds for speed bumps. Council Member Jackson

asked if they have to state where the money is going right now or can at Council where we to use the money. Council Member Wood said this Committee can specify in the budget. Council Member Garza stated he wouldn't be opposed at getting more money redistributed for the corner of Pennsylvania/Jolly as there is a Marijuana dispensary and the traffic is a problem along with the area of Allendale and Schaffer.

Council Member Garza then asked if \$10,000 for speed bumps is enough and Council Member Wood said she wasn't sure the amount is still correct so it could be less. She asked that the Internal Auditor check and see if they need to put additional money into it. Council Member Garza asked Ms. Richmond to reach out to the Internal Auditor to look at the amounts allocated to the speed bumps and the LFD cadet program so see if they are still the same. Council Member Wood stated they need more Code Officers and LPD officers.

Crego Park Area

Council Member Garza asked Captain Diehl if they could have a patrol stop by Crego Park as Ms. Justifer on Fidelity Road had some concerns about the park. Council Member Wood asked to be included on that response along with Ms. Richmond copied as well.

ORVs

Council Member Garza asked to discuss the ORV's and a possible ordinance to prohibit them on the road. He noted he was aware the DNR prohibits ORV's on main roads unless they are registered, tagged, have operating lights and blinkers. Recently they are seen more on the roads and in parks where they are not allowed. Ms. Hagen said she would review with the OCA. Council Member Wood asked Ms. Hagen if they could write a civil infractions and she said OCA does not issue them but an Officer can. In some instances they may not know who to give it too as by the time they get there, and if it is a juvenile, the parent may not be present. Council Member Garza asked if a car is parked on the street, has not moved, could it be towed. Captain Diehl indicated it all depends on the situation and if it is abandoned. Council Member Garza said he is seeing more young people on the ORV's and if the City can address parking on the street, then the ORV's would not run into parked cars. Council Member Jackson asked about what is illegal for kids driving ORV's on the streets and in the parks. Mr. Abood informed the Committee that the County enforces juvenile law and Captain Diehl added that it then goes to the Prosecuting Attorney's office. LPD can issue citations/civil infractions for unregistered ORVs, driving reckless etc. Council Member Wood lastly stated there needs to be a PSA on what is legal or not and get that information out there as people don't know what they are supposed to do.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present at this time.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:36 pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond

Council Administrative Assistant, Lansing City Council

Approved as presented: October 7, 2021