



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Thursday, June 16, 2022 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Wood called the meeting to order at 4:01pm

PRESENT

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Brian Daniels, Vice Chair
Council Member Jeffrey Brown, Member - arrived at 4:33pm

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Staff
Mary Bowen, OCA
Randall Hon, LPD
Chris Swope, City Clerk
Ashanti Clayton; 3337 Viking MSD
Mike Tobin, Fire Chief
Mark Burger, Fire Marshal
Brian Sturdivant, Fire Chief LFD
Scott Sanford, Code Enforcement

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES MAY 19, 2022, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

Councilmember Wood indicated items on the agenda were going to get moved around to accommodate the attendees.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

DISCUSSION – Electric Scooters

Councilmember Wood referenced the previous meeting, Paula Simon requested some information on the electric scooters around the city and the licensing regulations and how they are enforced. Clerk Swope stated he believes there are three companies that are licensed but does not have the number of scooters. The licenses run on a calendar year, and that the Clerk's office has not received any complaints, also that the scooter companies are required to communicate with the Public Service Department. Councilmember Woos asked about the dumping in neighborhoods, sidewalks, etc. and if there is anything in the ordinance about that. Mr. Swope responded as long as they are not impeding traffic. Councilmember Wood asked Officer Hon if he could explain the enforcement to the Committee,

Officer Hon indicated they are enforced like the DMV code, the rider must be 19, not be on a roadway, have a helmet, and also indicated that LPD has not received complaints. Officer Hon did state that data can be requested if one is idle for too long or is used in a crime and have them shutdown. Councilmember Wood asked if the data is something that LPD, Parks, OCA, or Clerk's office can request. Ms. Bowen stated the ordinance references the company shall share with the City like rates, trip odometer, number of scooters, compliance rates, and vandalism to name a few, and Councilmember Wood asked Ms. Bowen to find out who gets the data, she confirmed she would report back.

RESOLUTION – Set Show Cause Hearing in consideration of Order to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 1224 Dakin Street

Mr. Sanford stated the building value at \$54,000 and the repair value at \$63,974. Listed owners are John Pierce and Joan Peoples, Mr. Pierce has passed away and Ms. Peoples is just liquidating. He continued there has been no action, no permits pulled and multiple board ups, with outstanding taxes owed to the city and county, his department recommends MSD 60 days.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A SHOW CAUSE HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 1224 DAKIN STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Set Show Cause Hearing in consideration of Order to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 5017 Hughes Road

Mr. Sanford stated the building value at \$52,000 and repair cost at almost \$75,000, no permits or action, the owner is in Nevada and there are outstanding taxes owed, his department recommends MSD 60 days.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A SHOW CAUSE HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 5017 HUGHES ROAD. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Set Show Cause Hearing in consideration of Order to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 5019 PLEASANT GROVE ROAD

Mr. Sanford stated the building value at \$58,335 and repair cost at \$79,000. He continued that furnace and water heater inspection was completed in 2019, but no further action or permits have been pulled, his department recommends MSD 60 days.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A SHOW CAUSE HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 5019 PLEASANT GROVE ROAD. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Set Show Cause Hearing in consideration of Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 3025 Maloney Street

Mr. Sanford stated the building value at \$75,500 and repair cost at \$89,900. This property has been getting a lot of attention, it is owned by Mr. Skopek and the house was gutted and they were burning stuff in the backyard and LPD was called. He continued there are outstanding taxes are owed to the city and county, his department recommends MSD 60 days.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A SHOW CAUSE HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 3025 MALONEY STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of property located at 3337 Viking Road

Mr. Sanford stated the building value at \$87,000 and repair cost at \$127,960 and went to the demo board on 4/22/2021. The new owner purchased while in demo and requested a hold to not go to Council in June 2021. He continued that since then permits have expired or been cancelled except a mechanical. There are currently outstanding taxes for city and county, his department recommends MSD 60 days.

Mr. Clayton responded that everything was accurate except he was told once he began work on it then it would be held off. He continued that he had some bad contractors, and the basement was flooded when he bought it. Since then, he has had the basement waterproofed and fixed, he has hired a contractor and they can do everything, he has pulled a permit for the garage, and getting the roof done. Mr. Clayton added that he has a siding contract ready for next week as well. Councilmember Wood reiterated the three things required, to show financing, pulled permits, and a timeline, and asked Mr. Clayton when he thought he would have it completed, he responded he believed 90 days.

Mr. Sanford indicated they normally do 60 days and would need shown progress. Councilmember Wood said we could move forward with 60 days and told Mr. Clayton that if he believes he could have it completed in 90 days, that he needs to stay in contact with Mr. Sanford and in 30 days if they see progress, they can review again in 60 days and if enough has been shown and it is being made safe, they could dismiss the demo. Councilmember Daniels asked what would have to be done in 60 days, Councilmember Wood asked for confirmation on half the value, and Mr. Sanford confirmed 50% of the value. Mr. Sanford continued that Mr. Clayton will want to get in touch with Jerry Dunham and Building Safety for the building codes.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DANIELS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3337 VIKING ROAD.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

DISCUSSION – Mutual Aid; LFD

Councilmember Wood stated the continued discussion is on concerns on how much the city is being used by other areas, Fire Chief Sturdivant if you want to start.

Chief Sturdivant started by stating that Mutual Aid Agreements have evolved, the first were in the 70's and was just with City of Lansing and East Lansing. He continued that there are two different agreements, Mutual Aid – this assist with emergency responses when called upon from other communities, Automatic Aid – the City has with Delhi, and they automatically assist if/when possible. The last four years the biggest strain is on EMS, they fill gaps with OT, and everybody is feeling the same issues as Lansing.

Councilmember Brown arrived at 4:33pm

Chief Sturdivant added LFD should have 7-8 ambulances and they only have 5 as well as personnel shortages. In 2021 LFD responded to 4622 calls and combined fire/EMS mutual aid 148 times with two requests from Delhi. They currently run 25,000 calls with six stations and can get back to back calls, at times when there is a lull, they may get a call to run to DeWitt.

Councilmember Wood commented that hopefully Council will pass ARPA for additional ambulances, then LFD can focus on personnel, then suggested charging for outside calls. Chief Tobin stated if there is a pickup outside the city they are being charged, one option is to have an informal discussion with the Chief in DeWitt to drop contract with Mercy and contract with LFD. The second option is to separate out EMS from Fire Dept. Fire Chief Sturdivant said a third option is to regroup, take a look at and ensure the agreements fit the current landscape and understand our focus, resources, and staffing. Chief Tobin concluded that if they get a call, they have the commanding officer verify coverage for LFD

is first. Councilmember Wood said one question to look at is how many are being paid, her concern of having senior citizens afraid of the bill so they won't call and asked how many in DeWitt/Clinton County and who is paying. Chief Tobin said for 2021 they are at 56% collection rate for DeWitt and for Lansing 31% for billed, and stated DeWitt built new fire stations and our citizens have higher taxes/millage for public safety. Councilmember Daniels asked how long before getting the additional two, Chief Sturdivant said pre-COVID it was approximately 4 ½ months, one was ordered July 2021 and we are still waiting on a chassis, he reiterated getting the personnel to use them is the critical element. He continued that they received notification of 18 candidates in the pipeline, backgrounds started, and things are pressing forward. He concluded by thanking the Committee and allowing them to present.

ORDINANCE – Ordinance to Amend Chapter 1460, Section 1 and the International Property Maintenance Code, adopted by reference, to provide for the issuance of trash, weed, and grass violation notices and compliance orders, declare uncorrected violations nuisances, provide for appeals process and permit the City to abate uncorrected violations and recover costs

Councilmember Wood referenced page 6, lines 3-12, and that she received concerns from people on having the Manager of the Office of Code Compliance responsible for hearing the appeals and making the determination. Councilmember Daniels asked as opposed to who else, and Councilmember Brown asked if the concern is the person would not be biased, Councilmember Wood confirmed the concern and maybe they couldn't be objective and said she didn't know who else would do it. Councilmember Wood asked if something could be put in where there would be a quarterly or six month review of the claim appeals that go to Council for review. Ms. Bowen asked for confirmation of Committee or Council review, Councilmember Wood confirmed Council and asked Ms. Bowen to look into that and report back.

OTHER

Recreational Burning

Mr. Burger indicated they had a recommendation of changing the times to M-TH 8-10 and Fri 8-12 to match Sat/Sun and holiday 8-12 midnight (no change). Councilmember Wood asked Ms. Bowen to look at the burning and fire permit ordinance and at potential to make amendments to that.

City Hall Security

Councilmember Wood discussed security and the fact that someone got through and had mace in their possession and stated that on the 6th floor if you haven't been there you need to look. She continued that the seating for witnesses, defendants, plaintiffs, and prisoners come up the elevators, and family members are around makes for tense situations. Councilmembers Daniels expressed concern over mace getting through the security x-ray machine and the fact that once through they can get to any floor. Councilmember Brown asked about security at the door and are they the back-up, Councilmember Wood said LPD from the jail would be back-up but could take 3-4 minutes and a lot can happen in that amount of time. Councilmember Brown then referenced other government offices have visitor badges or security swipe doors only employees can access. Councilmember Wood gave an example of someone riding in the elevator down to the garage once with her. Councilmember Daniels asked who they talk to, and Councilmember Wood finished that they need to get a clear understanding from the courts, and then go to the Mayor and bring in DK Security about their protocols.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 5:09pm

submitted by Renee Richmond,

Administrative Assistant, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on July 11, 2022