



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Tuesday, November 7, 2023 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Wood called the meeting to order at 3:30pm

PRESENT

Council Member Adam Hussain, Chair - excused
Council Member Carol Wood, Vice Chair
Council Member Ryan Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Joe Abood, OCA
Walter Allen, Code Compliance Manager
Everett Coates, Code Enforcement Officer
Daniel D'Haene, 619 W. Mt. Hope
Robert Twenter
Robert Backus, Assistant Chief LPD

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 17, 2023, AS PRESENT.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION – Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 1722 Donora Street
Councilmember Wood asked Code Compliance for any updates, Mr. Allen reiterated the dates, and that no new permits have been pulled.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 1722 DONORA STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 131 Jackson Street
Councilmember Wood asked Mr. Allen for any updates, Mr. Allen responded it was sent out to bid on 09/07/2023 and no new permits and no work being done.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 131 JACKSON STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 619 W. Mt. Hope Avenue

Councilmember Wood asked Code to speak first then the resident. Mr. Allen stated it was a fire damage and that no work was being done due to lack of funds so referred for demo. He added that on 09/19/2023 a tear out was issued but not enough to bring to threshold.

Mr. D'Haene stated he is currently in the process of selling and actively trying to get things done, the debris is out and it is boarded up. A closing date of 11/20/2023 is set and a licensed builder is the investor and taking ownership. Councilmember Wood referenced the three things needed to stop the MSD which is show a timeline of activity that code agrees with, show the funds available to proceed, and that permits are pulled. Mr. Twenter introduced himself as the builder and investor, he indicated they cannot close or pull permits until this MSD process is complete. He does not want to buy if going to demo after closing. He confirmed he will have the funds on 11/18/2023. Councilmember Wood asked if he had a timeline of completion, Mr. Twenter said approximately four months. Mr. Allen indicated that sound reasonable for planning. Councilmember Kost asked if it was unsafe prior to the fire, Mr. Allen stated it was boarded up because broken into several times.

Councilmember Wood suggested tabling until the next Public Safety meeting on 11/21/2023 and it would go to Council on 11/27/2023. Asking Mr. D'Haene and Mr. Twenter to meet with Mr. Allen and come up with a plan for the meeting on 11/21.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KOST TO TABLE THE RESOLUTION TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH TO THE OWNERS OF 619 W. MT. HOPE AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

DISCUSSION – Assistant Chief Backus; update on license plate readers

Assistant Chief Backus highlighted the License Plate Reader (LPR) technology and the support it would give LPD in investigations, identifying where suspects are traveling to and from to recover safely and quicker. What it does not do is surveillance, it is just a snapshot of the letters and numbers, no photos and is currently for only 30 days and it must be related to an actual investigation to view.

Councilmember Wood asked Assistant Chief Backus if procedures have been developed in the department and if they are looking at high traffic areas like MLK, Cedar, Pennsylvania first, he responded with confirmation on all. He was then asked if this is just an overview and an ordinance or funding is not being requested, AC Backus responded that is correct, it is important to know why, when, and how it's being used. Councilmember Kost asked AC Backus if the department is safeguarding since it is powerful data, AC Backus confirm and a badge number is used to access and not all will have that access. He then asked how many they are looking at getting, AC Backus stated four in the downtown area and around the capitol right now. Councilmember Kost asked if they would be able to see in the backseat of the vehicle, AC Backus said that is unknown at this time but believes it only looks for the letters/number at the bumper area. Councilmember Kost then asked questions on license plates in the windows, no license plates, and smoked out covers. AC Backus said they actively pull those over and it is an infraction with the smoked out/tinted covers.

OTHER

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:11pm

Submitted by

Renee Richmond, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on December 5, 2023 as presented