



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Council Member Ryan Kost, Chair
Council Member Trini Pehlivanoglu, Vice Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Member-excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Nick Montry, EDP
Joe Neller, SIMTOB
Rawley Van Fossen
Michael McKissic

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 26, 2024 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment on the time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION- Orders to Make Safe or Demolish 3301 Turner Street

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO REMOVE THE TOPIC FROM THE TABLE.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Kost noted this has been in committee for four meetings, and Mr. Van Fossen provided a progress report. He confirmed permits have been pulled by the new owner, and judgement call from EDP is if permits and inspections in timely manner. There was a framing inspection today, which had a partial compliance. They are asking for Council to table again so the owner can continue to work.

Council Member Pehlivanoglu noted these addresses appear every meeting, and if EDP knows the timeline and if they expect 30-60 days progress, and asked for Committee discussion on how long to table.

Council Member Kost, if Council moves forward on Make Safe or Demolish, but they make it safe does this stop. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated that Council can but they would have 30 days from Council or it would have to be demolished.

Council Member Pehlivanoglu noted it is not just the work, but timing on the inspections. Council Member Kost asked if permits are getting pulled in 30 days it could alter the trajectory on this action. Mr. Van Fossen noted they are pulling the permits and because of progress they are asking to table for 30 days, and if see a pause of concern will bring to Council. Noting that this property and next property are still on Red Tag property list.

Council Member Kost stated Council could make a motion to reject, and asked OCA. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated she would find out the answer and bring back.

Council Member Pehlivanoglu suggested tabling for 30 days.

Ms. Hagen -Lawrence stated she would provide the information in writing on the process.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO TABLE ACTION FOR 30 DAYS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

RESOLUTION- Orders to Make Safe or Demolish 1519 Linval

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO REMOVE THE TOPIC FROM THE TABLE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Mr. Van Fossen at the last meeting permits were pulled in March and invited Mikey23. EDP recommendation is to continue to table for a timeline.

Mr. McKissic confirmed all permits pulled and inspections will be called within the next couple weeks. After those he will call for the building inspection. There was a rough inspection done, and assured Committee that he understands it was a fire damage house and the urgency, but explained he is training kids and that takes time.

Council Member Kost asked for a timeline. Mr. McKissic stated about 3 weeks, but the building part he could not provide a timeline. Council Member Kost asked for when he would be done with the project, and Mr. McKissic stated his goal is end of summer.

Mr. Van Fossen noted that with the property red tagged, it will continue to be assessed \$150 monthly charge for the red tag monitoring, so the longer it takes those fees will continue.

Council Member Kost noted it has been red tagged since 2015. Mr. McKissic stated in 2015 he did not own, bought in 2018, and Council Member Kost noted it was red tagged since 2019.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO TABLE FOR 30 DAYS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

DISCUSSION- Ordinance on Make Safe or Demolish Stricter Standards

Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated that OCA is actively partnering with MSU law. They are doing a municipal law lab where they partner with municipal agencies on longer term projects that need analysis. When the professor approached the City they decided this was the best thing for their project. The law student is actively working on this project and OCA is envisioning a recommendation at the end of the semester recommendations. Once they get recommendation OCA would meet with EDP and then report back to this Committee.

Council Member Kost asked if June 11th would be enough time, and Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated she thinks it would work. At that meeting they would have a written recommendation, not a draft of the ordinance. Council Member Kost stated a written recommendation would be good.

Pending Topics

City Attorney Updates on Parking Ordinance-Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated there is no update at this time. In the planning stage within the next weeks with Public Service and understand what their issues are, and if not the "odd/even" street parking what could the City do.

Council Member Kost asked for an update May 14, 2024 meeting.

Economic Development & Planning Department Updates –

- SIMTOB –

Mr. Neller confirmed that E. Kalamazoo is certified, the W. Holmes project has submitted plans. That timeline is to complete over the next month and get inspections in May and occupy with tenants. The last project is Baltic/Marvin Gardens, should have an inspection this week or next. Mr. Neller noted that the office door will be painted Thursday, 4/11.

Mr. Van Fossen noted there is an electrical inspection 4/10/2024.

Council Member Kost asked about outdoor lights at Kalamazoo, and Mr. Neller stated they are working with Miller Electric and he will provide updates at the next meeting. Council Member Kost stated he does not need to report at the next meeting, but can plan for May 14, 2024.

- List of Open ACTION Letters

Mr. Montry distributed out the list of open enforcements. Code is diligently working to go through all data open enforcements to make sure accurate. In some cases it will say comply, but when the report is run it states open, so they are working to get the data updated and corrected.

Council Member Kost noted 2,015 open, 785 red tags and asked how Council can be helpful; asking if a moratorium on new rentals be helpful for a period of time. Mr. Van Fossen stated he does not think that would be helpful, but what he sees in the list is an open list of open enforcements; some complied, trial and error with BS&A, and not ready to say a moratorium is what should be done. Over 2 months ago the list was double, so they would like more time to clean up the data on the disconnect. Mr. Montry added that it is important that they are not seeing an increase in new rentals, but an uptick in owner occupied. A moratorium might hurt some property owners who just got their property ready. There are four premise officers and they are fully staffed. Council Member Kost asked if they do electronic notes or have admin assistance. Mr. Montry stated they do their own work but Code has administrative assistance that can help. Council Member Kost stated with budget season he wants to make sure if they need budget funding for staff. Mr. Van Fossen stated with transition of fully cloud BS&A is to have as much as possible time in the field allowing documentation in the field instead of having all the time in the office.

- Progress on Dormant Properties

The list was provided to the Committee and Mr. Van Fossen noted the list does not include commercial properties. Council Member Kost asked about progress on property on Cesar Chavez next to the ice cream store, and Mr. Van Fossen stated their building official is asked to do an inspection. If Code red tags, outside of being vacated, then sit for 90 days, then NEAT Team, etc. The building official has different regulations he can determine if it needs to come down. Mr. Van Fossen stated he should be able to report out in the next 30 days.

Council Member Kost asked about trash enforcement on railroad tracks and crossings. He noted he is not looking at next meeting, but in future. Mr. Montry stated they can write the citation, but the issue is the enforcement. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated she can look into for Committee.

- Fee Study Update

Council Member Kost noted it was stated at Committee of the Whole the fee study will be submitted to Council, so this will be taken off the list.

ADJOURN

Adjourned 4:39 p.m.

Submitted by

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on April 23, 2024