



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Thursday, March 21, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Patricia Spitzley, Vice Chair
Council Member Adam Hussain, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Council Member Spadafore
Jim Smiertka, City Attorney
Joseph Abood, Chief City Attorney
Lisa Hagen, Assistant City Attorney
Dale Schrader
Mary Ellen Purificato

MINUTES

Ms. Boak clarified the changes in the February 21, 2019 minutes noting Law asked for the minutes to be changed to state "Public Service Department" not "Parking Manger" for the parking ordinance, however Ms. Boak distributed a copy of the ordinance on record which states it is the parking manager as the administrator "permitting for the residential parking program shall be under the supervision and administrative control of the office of the parking manager." Mr. Abood stated at the meeting on February 21, 2019 he would have stated Public Service Director who is charge of the parking department not the parking manager. Committee consensus was to have the explanation noted in the February 21, 2019 minutes.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPITZLEY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 14, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

City Attorney Updates:

Future of a Police Sub Station at Walnut Park

Council Member Wood recapped the last meeting and discussion on the plan for a LPD Sub-Station at the property, with the question at that time being if there anything the City can do to have a sub-station at the property.

Mr. Schrader, with Walnut Neighborhood, stated they were concerned and were told during the approval process that there would be a LPD sub-station. In his opinion the neighborhood does need it, and after an incident he witnessed he met with Walnut Hill Property Management. Lastly he stated his opinion that the cost would not be much for a security door, cameras, card swiping, etc.

Council Member Spitzley concurred that the structure is there, but not built to LPD specifications. Therefore is there an estimate from LPD to make it retro fit. Council Member Wood stated to the Committee that at this time there is no cost. The management company is saying it is a LPD issue not theirs. Council Member Spitzley then asked if there are City funds, and what would the City liability be if the City constructed it on private property. Mr. Schrader added to the conversation that according to the management company, the LPD Chief has not told them the specifications that they want.

Mr. Abood confirmed that when the developer was proposing a PILOT, there was a draft agreement done, however they went with a 10% PILOT which did not need Council approval, so the agreement was never used. The Administration at the time did write a letter of support for them, however Mr. Abood confirmed it was not addressing the sub-station but timelines for the purpose of the housing portion. There is an understanding they did make representation with the neighborhood and set aside space, but the configuration does not work with LPD now. The LPD would have to determine whether it can be retro fitted and make a determination on what is required, so the understanding is that it is still in the investigative process. Council Member Spitzley reiterated that they committed and so should stick to the commitment. Council Member Wood informed the Committee that for the next discussion, the LPD Chief and the TWG Management group could be invited. Council Member Spitzley again asked Law what liability the City would have. Mr. Abood stated it would depend on the how the agreement is drafted, and the OCA will draft it to protect the City. For the Committee consideration, once they get items from the LPD Chief they will contact the owners directly. Council Member Wood stated she would forward all the emails on the discussion to the OCA.

3801 Walton

A letter was referenced the Committee received at the meeting from the City Attorney dated March 18, 2019 to Mr. Bruce Kruger. She then asked OCA to have it signed by Mr. Kruger as well. Mr. Abood confirmed it was sent out to Mr. Kruger and thus far he has been responsive to the CPO, Law and Mr. Garza so they anticipate the signed letter to come back before the next meeting. Regarding a previous request by the Committee, Mr. Abood stated that the City Attorney wanted a hard cap on the timeline for submittal of a tenant list, so instead of every time it changes it was requested to be submitted every 6 months. Council Member Spitzley asked Law what was enforceable in the letter if he signs but in two (2) months there is no change. Council Member Wood stated that Mr. Smiertka in the past has said it would fall under a nuisance action, and Mr. Abood added it would depend on the facts.

Trash/Recycle Bin Enforcement (Ordinance 2018-1237)

Mr. Kilpatrick acknowledged that there have been eight (8) employees trained to write tickets and provided the ticket books, and Code Enforcement (Scott Sanford) will send lists on Mondays for the ones tagged or complaints have been filed on. Until Lansing Connect has

been updated to address the complaints, they can call Code Enforcement, they will post the warning and then send that list to Public Service. They anticipate within 2 weeks from this meeting Lansing Connect will be able to address it. Council Member Wood asked about repeat offenders. Mr. Kilpatrick stated once it is in Lansing Connect they will know if a warning or ticket has been issued before and if this is a repeat violation. She then asked Mr. Kilpatrick who else can write tickets, and he noted ROW inspectors, Code Enforcement does the initial visit.

Council Member Wood asked if the recycling bins have numbers on them connect them to who uses them. Mr. Kilpatrick said they do, however it is logged with the owner, and with landlords they could be multiple properties or switched between properties. He added that they can check to see where it is supposed to be and with any Granger cart they will have to call them. Mr. Kilpatrick was then asked if tickets were left on site or mailed, and he stated they will be mailed to the property owner, but could be left on the door for the tenant. They will leave the discretion up to the employees issuing the tickets. Council Member Wood agreed she did not support having an employee leave a ticket on a door, and the consensus of the Committee was that it was efficient to put in the mail. Mr. Smiertka confirmed mailing was more effective with a post mark.

Ms. Purificato acknowledged everyone for their work.

Ordinance Amendment for Parking (Ordinance 2018-1235)

Council Member Wood confirmed she spoke to Council Member Spadafore about the proposed amendments and he stated to her that he would request that they consider not doing the amendments until the Committee has the ordinance to address the 2am – 5am parking this way to do them at the same time. The Committee agreed. The Committee then highlighted topics they wanted to see or be addressed in the ordinance on 2am – 5am parking:

- Permit process
- Base it on need; need being if they have adequate parking on their property for the number of vehicles they would not get a permit.
- Annual permit
- Has to correspond with traffic control orders and parking restrictions already established on the street.
- Limit the number a particular property can have.

The Committee discussed the need based on number of licensed drivers, but based on potential congestion on the streets, it should be limited. Council Member Wood and Spitzley agreed it would be best for one (1) permit per house, and Council Member Hussain wanted to look at other areas that do parking permits. Mr. Kilpatrick noted that some streets might be too narrow and they will not be able to permit parking at all on the street.

Ms. Purificato asked what happens when it snows. Council Member Wood stated that during snow removal they have to find another location and could be ticketed and/or towed.

- One permit per house.

Council Member Hussain asked what would determine the need, and Council Member Wood stated if they have a garage for a car, space in the back yard for a parking pad, and this will require educating residents.

- After 72 hours on the street and not moving ticketed.
- No trailers, boats or recreational vehicles.
- No commercial vehicles
-

- Temporary permits for visitors or college students on a limited time basis.
- Register the license plates.
- Register and purchase on line.
- Require all contact information including name, email, license plate, and multiple phone numbers.

The Committee also asked for a cost breakdown to determine the cost of the permits, and discussed how to address if not parked where your permit allows you to park, the process for condos, associations, etc. Mr. Kilpatrick suggested starting with the single family neighborhoods, and Council Member Hussain asked Law to review other communities.

Ms. Boak referenced a document from the Committee in 2018 on parking and provided that to the City Attorney's office via email.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved as presented: April 11, 2019

From: Elaine M. Womboldt <emwomboldt@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 2:07 PM
To: Wood, Carol; Hussain, Adam; Spitzley, Patricia
Subject: March 21, 2019 Public Safety Meeting

President Wood and Chair of Public Safety Committee,

I am sorry that I am not able to attend today's meeting but wanted to send you my concerns regarding items on today's agenda.

- The information that was shared at last week's Public Safety meeting was concerning regarding the set up for a Police Sub Station at Walnut Park. Once again there is verbal discussions and then confusion later because it has not been documented. I know you were working on this issue and I appreciate your efforts. I would support whatever is necessary to get this sub station up and running if it means bringing in the developers to discuss the problem at a Public Safety meeting.
- 3801 Walton has been a problem property for a number of years. It has been discussed at several Public Safety Meetings and I hope immediate action is taking place to get this mess cleaned up and made safe not only for the people living in this apartment building but also for the members of the surrounding neighborhoods.
- I was very disappointed to hear the conversation at last week's meeting that no tickets have been written in regard to the Trash/Recycle Bin Enforcement Ordinance. This again is an ordinance that has been dragged on and on and finally passed but has not been enforced.
- I requested my concerns for the Ax Throwing Business that wants to open on S. Washington at last week's meeting. I am hoping the City Attorney looked into some of the questions I raised and also Chair Wood asked him to check into.
- I am hopeful that further information and discussion will be taking place regarding my request to create an ordinance governing Social Clubs in Lansing. Got Meds had their own private medical marijuana club before they even had a Medical Marijuana License and we know the issues that caused great concerns for the immediate area. I believe we must be pro active regarding what all can occur in and near these social clubs.

Thank you for your time and considering my suggestions. Again I am sorry I will not be at the meeting this week.

Elaine Womboldt, South Lansing Resident and Neighborhood Coordinator