



**MINUTES**  
**Committee on Public Safety**  
**Thursday, April 11, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m.**  
**City Council Conference Room, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff  
Joseph Abood, Chief Deputy City Attorney  
Andy Kilpatrick, Public Service Director  
Elaine Womboldt  
Mary Ellen Purificato

**Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**

City Attorney Updates

Future of a Police Sub Station at Walnut Park

Mr. Abood confirmed he spoke to Joe Whitsett with TWG and with the LPD Chief and encouraged them to communicate with each other. Mr. Abood stated he would have a report at the April 18<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting, but hoped to have a meaningful report from both parties by the May 2, 2019 meeting. Council Member Wood informed him the questions she is looking to be answered included a confirmation they are moving forward with the substation, who will be paying for the upgrades to make it compliant and what would be the anticipated date LPD would be on site.

3801 Walton

Mr. Abood submitted the signed letter from Mr. Kruger, property owner. It was noted received in Law on April 1, 2019 and had an attachment which outlined the status on the 7 items. Council Member Wood asked if the items were now complete since the letter gave a deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Abood could not provide that information, but stated City Attorney Smiertka continues to follow up with the owners. Council Member Wood asked what happens if the items are not done, and Mr. Abood stated the community officer has requested it go to Circuit Court. So Law is currently reviewing it to see if there is enough information to get a ruling in

court. There was been no extension requested or granted and it has to be all done immediately.

#### Trash/Recycle Bin Enforcement (Ordinance 2018-1237)

Mr. Kilpatrick confirmed that one ticket was written but they are still working out the details on mailing, mailing to whom and posting on the property. They have checked 20-30 properties. They are also working on determining if they need to attach photos or when it should be posted on the property. Committee members recommend the department purchase portable printers so things can be printed on site and they do not need to come back to the office before they go back out and post. Mr. Kilpatrick stated they are also working with Law on if they have to post the photos or if they photos just have to be on file for if or when they appeal. They are in the test pilot program with the enforcement and City Works, and once it has been confirmed as workable they will put that tab on the Lansing Connect. With the inspection request photos can be attached directly to it. Lastly he stated he will initiate a call to Code Compliance to see if there are any others, other than the 20-30 they are currently aware of. Committee suggested they look at Lyons, Seymour, and Sheldon streets.

Mr. Kilpatrick then outlined the process which is to have Code Compliance tag, share that information with Public Service, and when there is a violation Public Service will check it, ticket it and mail to the owner, occupant and place notice on the property. They can mail to the occupant and post or hand deliver to occupant.

Council Member Wood requested that Law and Public Service look into a process in the future that when an ordinance is passed, they need to be prepared at the time of passage to enforce it.

Mr. Kilpatrick noted items for the Committee to consider for the future of the ordinance including specifics for right of way because it currently states it cannot be between the sidewalk and curb, add something to the bill for residents to pay the violation, an appeal process and speak to the department on what they are seeing while ticketing to make the enforcement better.

Ms. Womboldt asked for clarification on the process. Mr. Kilpatrick confirmed notifications are provided to the owner and the occupant and that was also confirmed by Mr. Abood.

Council Member Wood encouraged Mr. Kilpatrick to take any information from the owner that states it is a rental and send to Code Compliance so they can address rental registration with them.

Ms. Purificato supported the recommendations made.

Mr. Kilpatrick stated he would have an update at the May meeting. Council Member Wood encouraged them to utilize any mailing they do on recycling and bins to update the public on this ordinance.

#### Ordinance Amendment for Parking (Ordinance 2018-1235)

Mr. Abood provided copies of community ordinances including those from

- Plymouth
- Ann Arbor
- Ypsilanti
- Milwaukee
- East Lansing

- Grand Rapids  
Toronto

The Committee went through the ordinances where Law had highlighted the sections that spoke to permits and fees or fines. Council Member Hussain noted his original question from the last meeting was also how many vehicles per address could be permitted and allowed to park in the street in other communities. He noted he was not opposed to one permit per house, but to his recollection he heard during the public meetings in 2018 that the residents who spoke at them wanted more than one.

The Committee discussed parking allowances, restrictions at a residence where there were no permits, how a new owner could petition for a permit and the appeal process. Council Member Wood asked the OCA to draft ordinance amendments on what they have seen from the presented municipalities along with addressing the request on the number of permits per household. The discussion will continue at the May 2, 2019 meeting with Law and Mr. Kilpatrick with Public Service for his input on the streets in the City, including the safe width of a street to park on both sides, safe width for an emergency vehicle to drive down it and safe width for parking on one side and one side with an emergency vehicle.

### **OTHER**

Council Member Wood voiced concerns she has heard recently on dog incidents and the process Ingham County Animal Control follows. She asked Law if the City can help with the process on the vicious dog, or is this entirely up to Ingham County Animal Control. Mr. Abood clarified that it is strictly with Ingham County and the City has no ability or authority to enforce the County regulations. Mr. Abood stated he would reach out to the County Prosecutor when Council Member Wood can provide him with the specifics on the concerns she recently heard. Council Member Hussain asked what things the City can enforce, and Mr. Abood noted that when a complaint comes into the LPD, they investigate it and then forward to the Ingham County Animal Control after they make their determination on if it is something the City can address or it needs to be addressed by the County.

Council Member Wood suggested making contact with Ingham County Animal Control to attend the next meeting on April 18, 2019.

### **Other**

Council Member Hussain asked the Committee chairperson to look into a better way to prioritize properties where issues are raised.

Council Member Wood asked Law about the status of 5025 S Pennsylvania where a rezoning was denied but a dispensary opened up. Mr. Abood confirmed that the applicants did file a lawsuit and after being heard in court and the Court of Appeals it was ruled against the City. Therefore the only steps would be the Supreme Court and Law does not believe there is sufficient grounds to take it to the Supreme Court, therefore they are fully licensed and occupied.

### **MINUTES**

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 21, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

### **ADJOURN**

Adjourned at 4:40 p.m.  
Submitted by Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary  
Lansing City Council  
Approved as presented: April 18, 2019