

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

June 20, 2013

MEMBERS

Chairman Jones
Alderman Burtle
Alderman Budd
Mayor Brotherton

ABSENT

Alderman Vota

ALSO PRESENT

George Calvert Rick Bonitzer
Pam Peabody Alderman Koonce
Attorney Romano Andy Lasswell
Alderman Walters Steve Milling
Alderman Heberling Cindy Dey

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 7:11 P.M.

Ordinance Violations-Status, Procedure, and Collection

Chairman Jones introduced Mr. Rick Bonitzer, President of Credit Collection Partners. He explained that his company is a debt recovery company and is interested in working with the City of Taylorville in collecting ordinance violations. Credit Collection Partners has been working with the Christian County Circuit Clerk's Office in collecting fines and court costs and the County is very satisfied with the results of recovering the outstanding debts.

Attorney Romano presented a flow chart showing the process of an Ordinance Violation and how a collection agency could assist the City of Taylorville. He received a report showing the Ordinance Violations on file with the County with approximately \$125,000.00 outstanding. The City Attorney will continue researching the procedure and collection of Ordinance Violations.

Agricultural Crops in City Limits

The Committee discussed uses permitted in a Residential 1 (R-1) District. Mr. Bernie Curvey and Mr. Joe Curvey have purchased property (formerly known as West School Property) located at 300 North Elevator Street. They have planted approximately seven (7) acres of soybeans on this property which is zoned as R-1 District. There have been many questions and inquiries if agricultural crops can be planted in the heart of the City Limits.

Section 10-4-2 of the Taylorville City Code states uses permitted in R-1 District can be "light agricultural including nurseries and raising of farm products (not to include livestock or sale of products on premises)". It was the consensus of the Committee that light agricultural permitted in R-1 District should be reviewed. The City Attorney will research this matter further and bring back to the Committee his recommendations.

Amend Section 4-5-5-A of the Taylorville City Code Regarding Liens

The Committee discussed City mowing of non-City property and the bills, liens, and the penalties that come of it. In many cases both the Health and Building Officer and the City Clerk's Office have difficulty in finding the responsible parties of the property in question. Sections in the City Code need to be updated to assist in contacting the responsible parties.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Budd to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to amend Section 4-5-5-A of the Taylorville City Code to re-define the persons or entities liable for mowing, cutting and trimming of weeds, grass, or plants. Motion carried 3-0.

Amend Section 4-5-6 of the Taylorville City Code Regarding Penalties for Mowing

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Budd to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to amend Section 4-5-6 of the Taylorville City Code to increase the penalties for mowing, cutting and trimming of weeds, grass, or plants to \$250.00 for the first offense; \$300.00 for the second offense; and \$350.00 for the third offense. Motion carried 3-0.

Amend Section 9-8-3-B of the Taylorville City Code Regarding Sign Permit-Insurance

The Committee discussed Section 9-8-3-B of the Taylorville City Code regarding the Sign Permit Insurance language to include “or other tangible property”.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Budd to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to amend Section 9-8-3-B of the Taylorville City Code to include “or other tangible property” to the insurance section regarding signs etc. Motion carried 3-0.

HBO Updates

Health and Building Officer, George Calvert updated the Committee and presented pictures of property cleanups and violations.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Burtle to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 P.M.

Bruce Jones, Chairman
Ordinance Committee