ORDINANCE COMMITTEE November 25, 2019

MEMBERS ALSO PRESENT

Chairman Bryant Alderman Olive Alderman Driskell
Alderman Budd Alderman Skultety Superintendent Mann
Alderman Burtle Treasurer Nation City Attorney Romano
Alderman Lanzotti Clerk Lilly Police Chief Wheeler
Mayor Barry Owen Lasswell

Chairman Bryant called the meeting to order at 6:48 P.M.

<u>Use of Restricted Vehicles – UTV Vehicles</u>

A discussion was held regarding the use of UTV vehicles on the streets of Taylorville. Chairman Bryant expressed her proposal. She has spoken with Battery Specialists Plus Golf Carts, who currently inspect and provide permits for Golf Carts, and they have the ability to inspect and issue permits for the UTV's as well. They cannot add the accessories for these vehicles. Chairman Bryant would like to see the minimum age of drivers at 21, increase the fee to \$150.00 and limit the number of permits allowed to 10, along with all of the other restrictions as listed in the current Ordinance for Golf Carts. Aldermen Budd and Burtle are strictly opposed to UTV vehicles. Mayor Barry has not seen the interest from the community as was present for the golf carts; he would like to see them present for discussion as well as their plan for the vehicles.

This agenda item will be tabled for the next Ordinance Committee meeting.

Chickens and Ducks in City Limits

Chairman Bryant expressed that she feels the Ordinance should remain as is; no chickens or ducks should be allowed in City Limits. No action was taken.

Taxi Cab Ordinance

Chairman Bryant addressed a proposed Ordinance prepared by City Attorney Romano regarding regulating and licensing of taxicab drivers. Based on conversations with Police Chief Wheeler and his recommendations, Alderman Driskell prepared a list of items that they would like to see added to this Ordinance including the following: a one time fee of \$100.00 for all taxi drivers, annual renewal fee of \$5.00 due on January 1 each year, no registered sex offenders, annual background check, license pulled upon violation by Mayor and/or TPD, and a fine for cab company/owner of \$500.00 per incident and driver of \$100.00 if in violation of requirements.

A lengthy discussion concerning the fees and requirements was held, with personnel from two taxi cab companies present to provide their feedback to the Committee. All felt that \$100.00 per driver was excessive but agreed that \$25.00 per driver per year, to include a background check, was acceptable. A fee of \$100.00 will be charged to the cab company per vehicle.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to direct City Attorney Romano to make the specified changes to the proposed Ordinance re: regulating and licensing of taxicab drivers. The motion carried (4-0).

HBO Updates

The HBO Report was presented to the Committee of property violations, demos, and clean-ups.

Any Other Matters

City Attorney Romano stated that there have been changes in State Statute regarding the legalities involved with Alternative Nicotine products. The City Ordinance will need modifications, as will our procedure for ticketing underage citizens in possession. There can no longer be a ticket issued or prosecution for anyone under the age of 21in possession of Alternative Nicotine products under the new legislation. City Attorney will prepare the necessary changes to the City Ordinance for approval.

The Ordinance Violation collection procedure was discussed, with Chairman Bryant expressing an interest in transitioning this process to Credit Collection Partners. City Attorney Romano presented his legal opinion, flowchart and referenced the procedure outlined by State Statute. Cases can only be referred to collections once a Judgement has been ordered. The offender must appear in court three times in order to receive a bench warrant. Mayor Barry expressed an intent to issue State tickets/charges when possible. The majority of Ordinance Violation ticket holders fail to show up for court or pay their fines. Chief Wheeler has addressed this with the Officers, who are now able to arrest a violator if necessary as an option to issuing a standard ticket for Ordinance Violation.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to adjourn. The motion carried (4-0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

Megan Bryant Chairman Ordinance Committee