

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

September 17, 2020

MEMBERS

Chairman Bryant
Alderman Budd
Alderman Lanzotti

ABSENT

Alderman Burtle

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Barry
HBO Goodall
Clerk Lilly
Superintendent Mann
Owen Lasswell
Alderman Olive
Alderman Dorchinecz
Chief Wheeler
Al Crist
Chief Adermann

Chairman Bryant called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Life Safety Code Update

Fire Chief Adermann discussed updates that have been made to the NFPA Life Safety Code. New editions should be purchased and maintained at the Fire Station. Most changes relate to the inspections and building codes. He noted that Section 9-2-1 of the City Code will need to be changed to reflect this.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to approve the purchase of the current edition of the NFPA Life Safety Code and direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to modify the City Code to reflect the update. The motion carried (3-0).

Liquor/Gaming License Request

Mr. Al Crist, owner of the Tangles Salon, has inquired with the Mayor regarding a liquor/gaming license to be available for the salon. If permitted, this would require a Class O license. The fee is \$3,000.00 per year, with an additional \$3,000.00 due initially along with \$50.00 background check. There is also a fee of \$25.00 per machine, payable each year, plus additional fees for Sunday or extended hours.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Bryant to recommend to the City Council to approve a Class O liquor license for Tangles Salon, pending receipt of proper application and verification of the location of gaming area. The motion carried (2-1).

4-way Stop Signs – Oak/Snodgrass and Ash/Snodgrass

The Street and Sewer Committee has approved four-way stop signs to be installed at the intersection of Oak/Snodgrass and also at Ash/Snodgrass.

Motion to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to amend the City Code to place a four-way stop sign at the intersection of Oak/Snodgrass and Ash/Snodgrass. The motion carried (2-1).

Metal Carports

Discussion was held regarding the current verses a proposed procedure for metal carports. Currently the County is assessing buildings with a size of 10x20' and larger with taxes. Most carports would fall under this size, increasing the tax revenue to the City. HBO Goodall stressed that a building permit should be issued, similar to the format used for an outbuilding, as a way to monitor these structures. Discussion was held regarding the gauge of steel to be used, the requirement of anchors to hold the structure, and the specific use(for vehicles only) to be included in the new procedure and Ordinance. Alderman Dorchinecz would like to see this be handled on a case by case basis with input from the Plan Commission rather than a blanket Ordinance to follow to avoid improper carports being installed. Chairman Bryant will meet with HBO Goodall to determine specific language and requirements for a written Ordinance that will be brought back to the Committee for review.

Nuisance Homes

Police Chief Wheeler presented information on the current and proposed Nuisance Home policies. Currently Sections 5-4-4-8, 4-4-13-1, and 4-4-14 of the Taylorville City Code address Disorderly House, Neglected Property, and Notice to Abate, all with a penalty of \$500.00. The majority of the Nuisance Homes in Taylorville are landlord owned rental properties. In order to clean up the homes and neighborhoods, Chief Wheeler would like to see stiffer penalties in place for the landlords, holding them financially and legally accountable. The City is Non-Home Rule and there may be restrictions on what the City can charge to the landlords.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to draft a new Ordinance regarding the procedure to address Nuisance Homes through landlord accountability, fines, and legal and monetary penalties. The motion carried (3-0).

Sewer Tap Ordinance

Alderman Dorchinecz presented the history of the Sewer Tap Procedure and Ordinance. He felt the City should fix a broken tap at the City's expense while other Aldermen felt the homeowner should pay half of the expense, up to \$1,750.00. This became the adopted procedure. He would like to see the City fix all taps at the City's expense and labor at no cost to the homeowner, and utilize all Street and Sewer personnel to do this once they are cross trained. Mayor Barry prefers that the City provide the tap, and the homeowner pays to install it. Alderman Olive feels the entire procedure should be revised with the input of the Street and Sewer Superintendent, as problems extend to the pipes and tile, not just the tap. A sub-committee was discussed, consisting of Aldermen Dorchinecz and Olive, and Superintendent Mann, to address issues with the current procedures and prepare new guidelines to ensure fairness to the City and the citizens.

HBO Update

HBO Goodall has issued a total of 128 permits to date and stated that there is a potential for new building along the area of Route 29 and 104. Methodist Church has begun the bidding process for their addition to begin this fall; Hathaway Homes will not begin construction here until next year.

Any Other Matters

Mayor Barry said the City has had many inquiries to have trees cut down on boulevards. He was unsure if the costs should be paid by the individual Wards or out of the 5th Ward Fund. Alderman Olive expressed that the City should only cut down the trees if they cause a hazard such as a broken sidewalk. Mayor Barry also stated that someone has purchased 602 E. Park (formerly Ann's Flower Shop) and will be requesting to rezone to C-1. A relative of the owner of 701 Taylorville Boulevard contacted the Mayor to request that all liens be waived as she may be interesting in purchasing the property.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to adjourn. The motion carried (3-0).

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.