

Public Property and Safety Committee

May 10, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Brey, Chris Able, Scott McMeans, Jill Hennessey, Alex Olson (6:08 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Muenzenmeyer, Bill Manis, Tony Dick, Valerie Mellon, Andrew Trilling, Greg Minikel, Scott Luchterhand.

Alderman Jim Brey called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed the newest Committee member Alderman Chris Able.

Alderwoman Hennessey made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21st, 2011 Public Property and Safety Committee meeting. Alderman McMeans seconded the motion and as all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

The next item was a discussion and possible action on Police Chief Tony Dick's presentation on NEWPRS (Northeastern Wisconsin Property Reporting System). The Police Chief, along with Detective Captain Luchterhand and Detective Trilling, described how the computerized inventory system for pawn shops would replace the current paper transaction records they now use. After a short discussing revolving around fees, access, and pitfalls of the current system, Aldermen McMeans made a motion to approve the new system and to have the Police Department work with the City Attorneys Office to re-write the necessary ordinance. Alderman Able seconded the motion. As all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on request (11-246) from Fire Chief Bill Manis to create a loading zone and fire lane on the east side of the Maritime Drive/ North 9th Street municipal parking lot was discussed next. Chief Manis explained the Fire Department needed unobstructed access to the east end of the lot for set-up and operation of their ladder truck to reach the upper floors of the Dermatology building. Access on other sides were obstructed with utility poles/wires and other buildings. Additional discussion was held regarding area business impacts, parking layouts and demand, and the repair that the lot is currently undergoing. Alderwomen Hennessey made a motion to converse with adjacent businesses, receive quotes on the necessary pavement and utility costs involved, to check with the City Attorneys office if an ordinance change is necessary, and to recommend to the Finance Committee for TIF District consideration. Alderman Chris Able seconded the motion. As all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The next item discussed was the City's ability to sell retired equipment. It was decided that the existing policy is adequate; no further action was taken.

Fire Chief Bill Manis next addressed the Committee regarding the hiring of three new firefighters. Chief Manis explained that the Personnel Committee met May 9th, 2011, and will be recommending to the Public Property and Safety Committee to hire three additional firefighters. Chief Manis went on to say that two of the firefighters were replacements for vacant positions and the third would be a new firefighter by contract.

These replacements will relieve overtime payments in the amount of \$400.00 per day. No action was taken but the matter was expected to be taken up at the next Council Meeting.

The next item was discussion and possible action on a request from Derek Muench, Transit Manager, on creating a "No Parking" area on the northwest corner of Reed Ave and Johnston Drive. He is asking that a "No Parking" sign be erected there as cars parked in that area compromise the safety of a newly installed bus shelter. Alderman McMeans made a motion to have such a sign installed; Alderman Olson seconded the motion. As all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

A communication (11-205) from Mona Moen regarding safety concerns in the area of Rankin and North 21st street was referred to the Park and Recreation Committee. No further action was taken.

The next item of business was a discussion on creating a special Housing Code Enforcement Area. The committee discussed the necessity, purpose, geographic parameters, possibly using Community Development Block Grant monies, and the necessity of additional study. Alderman Brey will check with the City Attorneys office on how to properly notice the next meeting dealing directly with this issue. Jim Muenzenmeyer will call that next meeting to further define the program once this information is received. No action was taken.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion and possible Ordinance change (11-195) to amend Section 16.07(1) of the Manitowoc Municipal Code related to building demolition. Jim Muenzenmeyer explained that this change allows his department to ask for a Letter of Credit to be issued to the City before a Razing Permit is issued. After a short discussion, Alderman Brey made a motion to amend the ordinance. After Alderman Hennessey seconded the motion, it passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion and possible action on Communication (11-206) from Robert Madison, Mad About Music, requesting two hour parking along the north side of Wisconsin Avenue from North 11th Street west. This request previously went to the Safety, Traffic, and Parking Commission with the recommendation of "no action". Alderman Jim Brey recommended placing on file.

The next item is a communication (11-197) from Karl Koch Sr. regarding traffic traveling the wrong way on North 8th Street. This item also went to the Traffic, Safety, and Parking Commission with a recommendation of "no action". The request was placed on file.

The last item was an update from Jim Muenzenmeyer regarding the status of the Cross Control Contamination program. He told the committee that the notifications would be mailed out to roughly one half of the non-residential MPU water customers within the next few weeks. Alderwomen Hennessey reminded everyone that this requirement was in response to a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources mandate.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Jim Muenzenmeyer
Secretary