

Wednesday, March 6th, 2024 Legal Affairs Committee Minutes

Members Present: Steve Weiss, John Hoover, Richard Ostenso.

Others Present: Mayor Robert Grotzinger, Chief Kevin Julien, Sgt. Jacob Schmidt, Kurt Gorsegner, Terry Carter, Patrick Rowe, Al Christianson, Admn Allen Christianson, Sara Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:15p.m.
2. Review vaping ordinance. Chief Julien reported issues regarding vaping in the school district. Currently there is not an ordinance, citations have been being issued by the County Officers. Chief Julien reported the ordinance also needs to address adults distributing vaping materials to underage kids. Chief Julien reported that this would appear in the same ordinance as tobacco products, also following the same bond amounts. Atty Rowe reported ordinance covers possession of vaping products, will draft up second ordinance to cover the distribution of products to be presented at future meeting.
S. Weiss made a motion to adopt ordinance Purchase or Possession of Tobacco Products to recommend to Common Council. Seconded by R. Ostenso. Motion passed by voice vote. 3-yes. 0-no.
3. Review nuisance property and property maintenance related ordinances. Atty Rowe's report was reviewed. Chief Julien reported that the ordinance is used as a tool to gain compliance. Chief Julien reported when a letter is sent to the landlord regarding ordinance violations the problem is must often corrected.
Ordinances will remain as written.
4. Review draft storage container ordinance. K. Gorsegner reported that storage containers are becoming more popular; replacing typical storage sheds/barns. K. Gorsegner reported most communities do not allow them in residential districts. S. Weiss spoke in favor of the ordinance. Mayor Grotzinger spoke in favor of the ordinance. Discussion regarding conditional use permits. S. Weiss motioned to adopt ordinance Shipping and Portable Containers Used for Storage and recommend to Common Council. Seconded by J. Hoover. Motion passed by voice vote. 3-yes. 0-no.
5. Discussion on protocol for advisory public referendum on street reconstruction. A. Christianson reviewed draft handout for an advisory public referendum. A. Christianson reported this referendum could be a starting place to get an idea of community support. Atty. Patrick Rowe to review verbiage of draft advisory referendum. Discussion regarding percentage of residents that are property owners vs. renters. S. Weiss spoke in favor of the proposed referendum.
6. A. Christianson reported a resident brought concerns regarding no wake zones. Discussion regarding enforcement. A. Christianson reported draft ordinance would have to be submitted to DNR. A. Christianson reported resident will likely appear at Common Council meeting.
7. Adjourn. Motion by S. Weiss, seconded by R. Ostenso to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote. 3-yes. 0-no.