



CITY COUNCIL

Public Safety Committee

**Tuesday, February 20, 2007
Meeting Report**

Committee Members in Attendance: D. Sterner, Chair, S. Fuhs, S. Marmarou

Others Attending: C. Younger, J. Khokhar, L. Kelleher, T. Daley, W. Scott, M. Mayfield

HOUSING ISSUES/PERMITS

Councilor Sterner introduced Tim Daley who assists the Magisterial District Justices through his work in the Court Administrator's Office and Magisterial District Justice Wally Scott.

Mr. Daley noted his discussions with President Judge Grim about the need to assist the City with quality of life legislation. He also described his meetings with MDJ Scott, Codes Administrator Brad Reinhart and Codes Manager Jatinder Khokhar on the housing permit issues and a variety of surrounding matters.

Mr. Khokhar agreed with the need for the housing permit ordinance to be stronger. He also noted a request received from the MDJ's for the reinstatement of a sliding fine scale. He explained the MDJ's prefer using a lower fine for first time offenders and a larger fine for habitual problems. The sliding scale would provide for that application.

MDJ Scott described the progress of his meetings with the Codes Administrator and Manager.

Councilor Marmarou described the additional problems pertaining to the placarding and shutting down of rental properties that are not in compliance with City ordinances and codes.

Councilor Fuhs noted the need for the Housing Permit Ordinance to also address the habitability of the residence and allow the City to refuse reissuing a permit when properties do not comply with Codes.

At their March meeting the Committee will receive a further update on legislative initiatives (Zoning/Housing/Quality of Life).

Councilor Sterner asked Ms. Mayfield if the Housing Permit Ordinance will be prepared for introduction at the Monday, February 26, 2007 regular meeting of Council. Ms. Mayfield replied that the ordinance will be completed for introduction. Ms. Kelleher circulated the newest draft of the Housing Permit Ordinance containing language suggested by Mr. Khokhar and Mr. Reinhart. Ms. Mayfield stated that she could have the ordinance viewed and prepared for consideration at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, February 26, 2007.

The Committee will also discuss the Residential Health and Safety Ordinance at their March meeting.

The Public Safety Committee adjourned.