



CITY COUNCIL

Standards of Living Committee

Monday, March 21, 2016
Meeting Report

Committee Members Attending: C. Daubert (Chair), S. Marmarou, D. Reed

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer, R. Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm by Mr. Daubert.

Mr. Johnson stated that he had a scheduling conflict this evening and requested that the agenda be reviewed out of order so that he could leave early. The Committee agreed.

I. 2016 Topics and Timeline

Mr. Daubert restated his position that items not appear on this agenda for discussion if there is no new information. The Committee agreed.

Mr. Johnson questioned the items that the Committee would like to review through July.

Mr. Marmarou stated that he continues to receive complaints about large trucks parking along the Muhlenberg portion of N. 13th St. He stated that this area is also littered and that residents think this is still part of the City. He stated that when he contacted Muhlenberg Township he did not have a favorable response.

Mr. Daubert suggested that cleanliness be a discussion topic at the April meeting. He noted the need for education to residents to keep their properties clear of trash and litter.

Ms. Reed stated that there is also a problem with large trucks parking just over the City line in Bern Township. She suggested that a meeting be arranged between City officials

and local township and borough officials about large trucks. Mr. Daubert agreed and stated that this would be an excellent opportunity to open discussions with other officials. He noted his hope that off street parking areas for the trucks could be found.

Mr. Johnson suggested that parking be a topic. He stated that in addition to large truck parking there has also been a sharp increase in the requests for loading zones, pick up zones and handicapped parking spaces.

Mr. Johnson suggested that a representative from the law office attend the April meeting for updates on the lease agreements. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that the Committee should also determine which agreements to review next.

Mr. Daubert questioned if the complete streets concept will continue with the transition to the new administration. Mr. Johnson stated that he still considers the concept during planning but that it is not part of the formal process. He suggested that the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan be discussed in June.

Mr. Marmarou stated that he has had many complaints about a property in the rear of the 1100 block of N. 9th St (at the end of Nicolls St at Robeson St). He stated that it appears to be some kind of sales operation but that the items block traffic. Mr. Johnson requested that this be submitted to the Citizen Service Center for code enforcement.

Ms. Reed stated that she has had an increased number of complaints about discarded mattresses. She requested that the regulation be reviewed and enforcement begin.

Mr. Johnson stated that he has also had an increase in requests for new street lights. He suggested that this be discussed in May.

Mr. Johnson left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Reed suggested that the Fire Department attend the July meeting to review their "Do Not Enter" list.

Mr. Daubert suggested that the Summit Chase Dr lighting project be discussed at the July meeting.

Ms. Reed suggested that graffiti also be addressed at the April meeting. She stated that someone is spraying "Jesus is Coming" in the Centre Park area and that they have hit the Shogun sculpture at the Centre Park Apartments. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she will report this graffiti.

Mr. Daubert noted the importance of security cameras and their locations.

II. Rental Housing Regulations Requirement for local property manager

Ms. Reed suggested that the regulations be reviewed for possible amendment.

III. East Ends Agreement

Ms. Reed stated that Council received an excellent update. She questioned the eviction date and the condition of the building. She expressed the belief that the building must be safe before it is leased to new tenants. She stated that there may also be issues with the roof.

Mr. Daubert agreed that the condition of the building must be assessed quickly. He stated that it must be safe and secure.

Ms. Reed stated that currently the City is locked out of the building.

Mr. Marmarou expressed the belief that the building will be vandalized if left unattended.

Mr. Daubert reminded all that this is an historic property.

IV. Fire Tower Agreement

Ms. Reed requested that a representative from Pagoda Skyline attend a future meeting. She stated that to her knowledge there is still no formal agreement.

Mr. Daubert expressed the belief that verbal agreements last too long and there is no enforcement or documentation.

V. UGI Meter Relocation

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that the issue is in litigation.

Mr. Daubert suggested this issue be moved to a pending area of the agenda until there is movement on the issue.

VI. Agreements with Playground Associations & Other Organizations

Mr. Marmarou expressed the belief that this is a very important issue. He described his involvement at Rotary Park and noted the need for volunteers to be involved over a long period of time and to understand the agreement.

Mr. Daubert noted his hope that there would be a summer program at Baer Park now that boxing will be relocated. Ms. Reed agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk