



# *CITY COUNCIL*

## *Standards of Living Committee*

**Monday, July 18, 2016**  
**Meeting Report**

**Committee Members Attending:** D. Reed, C. Daubert

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer, D. Klahr, M. Lubas

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm by Mr. Daubert.

### **I. Angelica Baseball Field Agreement with Alvernia**

Mr. Lubas stated that the fields are available to rentals after Memorial Day unless the Alvernia teams advance in the NCAA tournament. He stated that the Rec Commission had zero requests to use these fields in 2015 and only one so far in 2016.

Mr. Waltman joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Daubert questioned if the public understands that these fields are available and that they should reserve them through the Rec Commission. Ms. Klahr stated that the public may feel these fields are cost prohibitive. She stated that the fee is in line with the caliber of the fields.

Mr. Palacios arrived at this time.

Ms. Klahr stated that other City fields are utilized more frequently and are at a lower cost. Mr. Lubas agreed and stated that Alvernia does a great job maintaining these fields.

Mr. Waltman questioned if the fields were available for public use. Ms. Klahr and Mr. Lubas stated that they are. Mr. Lubas stated that both CYO and Olivet reserve the fields directly with Alvernia.

Mr. Daubert stated that he recently spoke with Doug Smith from Alvernia about this issue. He stated that Mr. Smith wants to cooperate with the City and resolve this issue.

Ms. Reed expressed the belief that this is a non-issue.

Ms. Klahr stated that each field is designed for a specific use. Mr. Lubas agreed. He described how the fields used to be multi-purpose but that they are not any longer. He also stated that if a baseball game is underway the softball field cannot be used (and vice versa) due to the design and layout of the fields.

Mr. Waltman questioned if Baer Park's fields still had lights. Mr. Lubas stated that the lights do not currently work. Ms. Klahr stated that Public Works has been looking into why. She expressed the belief that it would cost a lot to repair them. Mr. Lubas noted the need to evaluate the cost of repairs versus the cost of new lights.

Mr. Waltman noted that in the past there were many tournaments held on all City fields. He questioned why this has decreased. Mr. Lubas stated that many adult leagues lost members and sponsors. He stated that they are making a comeback. He stated that the Rec Commission is keeping the fields in better condition.

Mr. Lubas expressed the belief that Alvernia has always been cooperative. He again stated that no one is contacting the Rec Commission to reserve the fields.

Ms. Klahr stated that the Lantern Parade will be held on August 3 at 5:30 pm in City Park.

Mr. Lubas and Ms. Klahr left the meeting at this time.

## **II. Reinstatement of Requirement for Local Property Manager for Rental Properties**

Mr. Palacios stated that he has reviewed this issue and that the information will be requested as part of the registration form.

Mr. Waltman suggested that the regulations not be changed until the new Codes Manager is hired. He noted his hope that this would once again be built into the regulations but that it be delayed.

Ms. Reed expressed the belief that many property owners do not live in the Reading area. She stated that this was the case for many owners before the Blighted Property

Review Committee. She stated that blighted rental properties are destroying neighborhoods.

Mr. Daubert questioned the next steps. Mr. Waltman suggested that the Committee keep this topic on its agenda to discuss with the new Codes Manager when he/she is hired.

Ms. Reed agreed with this approach but noted the need to address it quickly. She questioned when the new Codes Manager would be hired. Mr. Palacios stated that resumes have been received and reviewed. He stated that there are several good candidates and that a candidate will be hired within the next few weeks.

Mr. Waltman stated that Mr. Palacios and Mr. Steckman are reviewing the resumes and overseeing the hiring process.

### **III. Fire Department “Do Not Enter” List**

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that there was no one present to address this topic.

### **IV. Summit Chase Drive Lighting Project**

Mr. Daubert stated that Mr. Johnson is not present to address this topic.

### **V. Lease Agreement Updates**

- Fire Tower

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that Mr. Coleman is waiting to hear from Pagoda Skyline.

- Reading Redevelopment Authority

No report.

- Blacktop Basketball

No report.

- County Emergency Services

No report.

### **VI. Pending Topics**

- UGI

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that Mr. Coleman has a meeting on this topic on Thursday. She stated that there is nothing new to report at this time.

- East Ends

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that Mr. Coleman had no new information at this time.

## **VII. Other Matters**

- Reading Risk Reduction

Mr. Daubert requested an update. Ms. Reed stated that the Committee suggested that Ms. Pagan meet with Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz and Mayor Scott.

- Baseball Tournaments

Mr. Waltman expressed the belief that there should be more tournaments throughout the City. Mr. Daubert agreed and suggested that the City should be a regional hub for tournaments.

- City Cleanliness

Mr. Waltman stated that he has been attending Blacktop games and that the City Park basketball court area is filthy with trash and litter. He stated that it is the worst he's ever seen it.

Ms. Reed stated that the downtown area also is horrible with trash and litter. She showed a video that was posted online showing litter strewn on the sidewalk in the 300 block of Penn St.

Mr. Waltman expressed the belief that the litter in the video looks as if it was strewn deliberately.

Ms. Reed requested that DID be part of this Committee's next agenda to address this.

Mr. Daubert described the litter he saw when he attended the last Downtown Alive concert.

Ms. Reed stated that she was picking up litter before the Ringo Starr concert while DID Ambassadors watched her.

Mr. Waltman noted how some neighborhoods are spotless and others are not.

Mr. Daubert expressed the belief that the downtown should be spotless every time there is an event downtown so that visitors don't see all the litter and trash.

Ms. Reed suggested that this topic appear on the next Committee of the Whole agenda so that all of Council can hear the information.

- Reading Police in Kenhorst

Mr. Daubert stated that he saw a Reading officer and vehicle in Kenhorst this weekend.  
Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that Reading contracts police services with Kenhorst.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC*  
Deputy City Clerk