

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 2, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman John Sonsalla at 6:00 PM. Present at roll call were: John Sonsalla, Bev Anderson and Cindy Corley. Absent: None. Also present were: Mayor Dave Breunig, Dave Gough, Bill McDaniel, Stan Krahenbuhl, Jason King and Phil Risseuw.

Motion by Anderson second by Corley that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Anderson second by Corley to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, discussion was held concerning designation for building inspection and enforcement of the City's Property Maintenance Ordinance Ch. 13.095. That ordinance states either the Building Inspector or Police Officers are authorized and shall make exterior inspections of the exterior of the premises for the sole purpose of determining whether the premises conform to the requirements of this ordinance. Chief King notified Mayor Breunig and the City Council by letter dated November 21, 2012 that for the sake of public relations, he no longer wants the Police Department to conduct the inspections for the Property Maintenance Ordinance. A copy of Chief King's letter was included in the agenda packet. Chief King feels it is the responsibility of the Police Department to enforce the City's ordinances, not to complete the initial property inspections and initial contact with the property owners.

Stan Krahenbuhl, the City's Building Inspector attended the meeting to provide his input. He stated when he was hired; exterior building inspections was not part of the job description. And if the Council wants to add these duties to his job description, he will resign the position. Further discussion was then held. It was the consensus of those present that the exterior building inspections should be done by someone from another town or community. Maybe we could find another community willing to share their building inspector with us, or maybe Mike Reuter would be willing to complete this work. Mr. Reuter now does residential remodeling and new building permit inspections, and commercial building permits in Darlington. After discussion and consideration, motion by Corley second by Anderson to seek an outside source to complete exterior building inspections in regard to the Property Maintenance Ordinance. Motion carried.

Under other unfinished business, Alderperson Anderson suggested members of the Ordinance Committee should review the City's personnel policy to reacquaint themselves with the personnel policy. It was suggested to include the matter on a future meeting agenda for this committee.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning proposed changes to Chapter 11.04, Licensing of Direct Sellers, Transient Merchants and Solicitors. Attorney McDaniel distributed three proposed revisions for committee member review at this meeting. The intent of the proposed change is to deny applications to direct sellers, transient merchants and solicitors during special community events under the supervision and control of a local organization or business. After discussion and consideration, motion by Anderson second by Corley to recommend to the Council the approval of option one revision to Chapter 11.04, Licensing of Direct Sellers, Transient Merchants and Solicitors. Motion carried. Stan Krahenbuhl then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning proposed changes to Chapter 7, Traffic Code, Parking Regulations. Attorney McDaniel distributed a copy of the proposed revisions at this meeting. The proposed changes concern areas of Wisconsin Street, W. Harriet Street, Main Street near the Veterans Memorial, and Ohio Street adjacent to Immanuel United Church of Christ. Several changes were recommended to the proposed document. After discussion and consideration, motion by Anderson second by Corley to instruct Attorney McDaniel to revise the ordinance amendment as discussed, and present a revised amendment at a future meeting of this committee. Motion carried. Dennis McPhail arrived at the meeting at 6:50 PM; and Jeremy Williams arrived at the meeting at 6:55 PM.

Discussion was then held concerning proposed changes to Chapter 19, Parks and Trees. The proposed changes prohibit skateboards and bicycles on the Veterans Memorial; and permit consumption of alcoholic beverages in the campground. Attorney McDaniel distributed a copy of the proposed revisions at this meeting. The proposal allows fermented malt beverages to be consumed at individual campsites at Pecatonica River Trails Park – Campground; and prohibits “play vehicles” on any portion or part of the Darlington Area Veterans Memorial. A few minor changes were recommended to the proposed amendment. After discussion and consideration, motion by Anderson second by Corley to instruct Attorney McDaniel to revise the ordinance amendment as discussed, and present a revised amendment at a future meeting of this committee. Motion carried.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Corley second by Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

Philip A. Risseeuw, Clerk-Treasurer