

Public Property and Safety Committee

June 2, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Brey, Chris Able, Scott McMeans, Jill Hennessey, Alex Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Muenzenmeyer, Tony Dick, Valerie Mellon, Jason Sladky, Michael Check, Nathan Brooks.

Alderman Jim Brey called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Alderwoman Hennessey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10th, 2011 Public Property and Safety Committee meeting. Alderman Able seconded the motion and as all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

The next item was a discussion and possible action on Police Chief Tony Dick's request to fill the vacant Community Service Worker position and combining the Meter/Parking Attendant position with that of the Community Service Worker. The Chief informed the committee that the two positions have mingled over the years and currently they practically do the same thing. The Chief wants to fill the now vacant Community Service Worker position and re-name it Community Service Worker II. This position will more than likely be filled by the current Meter/Parking Attendant. The Chief wants to then leave the Meter/Parking Attendant position vacant and create a new position of Community Service Worker I. The Chief told the committee that the difference in pay between the two positions, \$2.61, reflects the supervisory duties the Community Service Worker II would have over the Community Service I position. The Chief went on to state that it is probable additional Community Service Worker I positions will be created, relieving sworn officers of routine tasks and doing so at a reduced cost to the City. Discussions revolved around the job descriptions of the two positions, who their direct supervisor would be, and the rate of pay for each. Alderwomen Hennessey made a motion to approve the new job descriptions, fill the empty position, and to send the recommendation to the Personnel Committee. Alderman Alex Olson seconded the motion. As all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

A discussion and possible action on allowing specialized bow hunting of deer in the Rheume Park area was considered next. Alderman Sladky explained to the Committee that the deer in his district are damaging landscaping to residential properties. Nathan Brooks, 3610 Wildwood Drive, Manitowoc, also informed the Committee that people are feeding deer and encouraging them to stay in the nearby area. After a short discussion involving citizen safety, illegal wildlife feeding, the problems related to bow hunting, and the geographical area involved, it was decided that Police Chief Dick would obtain prices and further information on hiring professional sharpshooters to rid the area of the nuisance deer and bring that information back to the Committee at a future date. No further action was taken.

The next item was a discussion and possible action on Alderwomen Hennessey's request of a yield sign at South 21st Street and Grand Ave. The traffic at that

intersection is very heavy at times with the junior high school, the Felician Village development, and the two athletic fields all in the immediate area. After a short discussion involving the effectiveness of yield signs vs. stop signs, Alderman McMeans made a motion to have a stop sign installed at the intersection of South 21st and Grand Avenue stopping southbound traffic on South 21st before entering Grand Avenue. Alderman Able seconded the motion and as all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on communication (11-206) from Robert Madison, Mad About Music, requesting two hour parking on the north side of Wisconsin Avenue from North 11th Street west approximately 160 feet. The owner has expressed concerns that there is not sufficient parking for his business because neighborhood cars are parking in that same area for long periods of time thereby denying his customers of parking spots. Jim Muenzenmeyer expressed concern that the business is a non-conforming business and that there has been limited off street parking made available. Additional discussion was held regarding how that type of business fits into the neighborhood, nearby parking restrictions, and the owners future plans. Alderwomen Hennessey made a motion to reconsider the request after the business applies for and is successful in a rezone of 940 North 11th Street. Alderman McMeans seconded the motion, Alderman Olson voted “no”, the others voted “yes” and the motion passed 4 - 1.

The next item was discussion and possible action on revisions to Chapter 16.15 of the Manitowoc Municipal Code pertaining to responsibilities of owners relating to the maintenance of nondwelling structures, fences, and premises. Jim Muenzenmeyer told the committee he needed to add the word “birds” into this part of the code to enforce elimination/reduction of problem seagulls at certain properties. After a short discussion, Alderman McMeans made a motion to add the word “birds” into that portion of the code and for the City Attorney to draft the proper documents. Alderman Able seconded the motion and as all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

The last item on the agenda was a report from Jim Muenzenmeyer on the fees related to the Inspection Department. Mr. Muenzenmeyer explained to the Committee that this was in response to an email that Jim Reif had sent to all aldermen and the Mayor that contained inaccurate numbers and misinformation. Mr. Muenzenmeyer informed the Committee members what the correct fee schedule is, how Manitowoc’s plumbing fee schedule has a very low minimum fee that is very friendly to lower income applicants, and that this fee had not been raised in over ten years. After further discussion, no action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Jim Muenzenmeyer
Secretary