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Office of the City Administrator

**PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2014**

PRESENT: Aldermen Gierl, Pukaite

NOT PRESENT: Alderman Mayr

ALSO PRESENT: Acting City Administrator Thyges, Community Development Director Tollefson, Executive Assistant Prosser, Mr. Franklin, Press

In the absence of Alderman Mayr, Alderman Pukaite was asked to chair the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Alderman Pukaite at 6:00 PM.

Approve meeting minutes of June 10, 2014

Action: Motion to approve meeting minutes of June 10, 2014 (Gierl/Pukaite)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation.

Text Amendment Related to Chickens

Community Development Director Tollefson provided an overview of a discussion held by the Public Welfare Committee in mid 2012 related to a text amendment to allow chickens on lots of at least .75 acres. Ms. Tollefson stated at the time the Public Welfare Committee debated the issue and considered the interests of a large group of stakeholders, both proponents and opponents. Ms. Tollefson informed the Committee staff did prepare a text amendment in which no more than four hens would be permitted on a parcel, along with additional standards such as no slaughtering, a secured enclosure, setback requirements, limitations to the size of the enclosure and the storage feed. Ms. Tollefson stated the Committee elected to maintain the current code requirement.

Alderman Pukaite inquired as to the reason the text amendment is once again before the Committee. Ms. Tollefson stated the issue is back before the Committee due to a recent enforcement issue of chickens on a single family property with less than ten acres.

The Committee held a discussion on the feasibility of a text amendment to allow for residents to have chickens on any lot size. The Committee agreed to consider a text amendment provided the amendment provides language related to maintaining the site free of waste to ensure health and safety of residents as well as any odor nuisance.

Staff will bring a draft text amendment back to the Public Welfare Committee at the next meeting for consideration.

Item for Discussion: Permits for Roofs and Roofing Materials

Community Director Tollefson stated she has had conversations over the past year with Mr. Franklin, a concerned resident, regarding the use of wood shingles for roofs and the lack of requiring a permit for roofing projects on residential structures.

Public Welfare Committee
Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2014
Minutes approved: September 9, 2014

Alderman Pukaite questioned whether there have been any issues related to cedar shingles in the community. Community Development Director Tollefson stated staff has not seen any public safety issues and city inspectors have not come forward to raise a concern. Ms. Tollefson stated she did talk with Fire Chief Bialk regarding the shingles and noted the Fire Chief did not view wood shingles to be a fire concern given our climate. Ms. Tollefson stated staff did inform Mr. Franklin as a resident he would have the opportunity to bring forward a potential text amendment to the Public Welfare Committee. Mr. Franklin was present at the meeting and was given the opportunity to discuss his concern with the Public Welfare Committee.

After hearing Mr. Franklin's presentation the Committee informed Mr. Franklin the standard for shingles was set by the developer along with the homeowner's association, not the city, thereby it would not be the city's place to impose change.

Future Agenda Items Update

Acting City Administrator Thyes stated the item; a review of road median landscaping and maintenance practices will come before the committee at their next meeting. Mr. Thyes updated the Committee on the city's website project, noting he has met with the Mequon Thiensville School district to discuss their new website project. Mr. Thyes mentioned the staff Website Committee will continue to work on the city's website project and an update will be provided to the Committee at a future meeting. The Committee asked staff to take a look at the Village of Thiensville website. Mr. Thyes suggested the future agenda item, review of the benefits of the Ozaukee County shared ride taxi and bus service, be discussed during the budgetary process; to which the Committee agreed. Mr. Thyes informed the Committee a review of the zoning code enforcement policies and procedures will come before the Committee at their September meeting.

Alderman Pukaite requested a review of the American Transmission Company's vegetation order and Alderman Gierl requested a review of the city's ethic code be placed on the list as future agenda items.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting (Gierl/Pukaite)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lina Prosser, Executive Assistant

CITY OF MEQUON PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE