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Office of the City Administrator

**PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2014**

PRESENT: Aldermen Gierl, Mayr, Pukaite

ALSO PRESENT: Acting City Administrator Thyges, Community Development Director Tollefson, Operations Manager/Parks Director Curran, Executive Assistant Prosser

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Mayr at 5:45 PM.

Approve meeting minutes of August 13, 2014

Action: Motion to approve meeting minutes of August 13, 2014 (Pukaite/Gierl)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation.

Median Maintenance

Operations Manager/Parks Director Curran was present at the meeting to answer questions of the Committee regarding median maintenance. Mr. Curran stated the Parks Department is responsible for the overall maintenance of most lawn areas and landscaping throughout the city. Mr. Curran went on to say medians are also maintained on Mequon Road and a section of Wauwatosa Road. Mr. Curran stated Ozaukee County mows Port Washington Road and the city does assist with trimming and weed control. Mr. Curran pointed out the city utilizes a contractor to maintain the medians in the Mequon business park.

Alderman Pukaite inquired as to why median maintenance is before the Committee for discussion. Alderman Mayr stated there has been some concern raised by residents and several Aldermen, including himself, regarding the maintenance of the intersections and suggested the topic be brought before the Committee to discuss different ideas on how to control the weeds. Alderman Pukaite suggested identifying specific intersections, particularly where people enter the city. Alderman Pukaite also suggested looking at alternative ways of landscaping by planting native and natural plants.

Staff was directed to arrange for the spraying of weeds along the city's main intersections and the Town Center area.

Ordinance 2014-1430 Text amendment to the City of Mequon, Chapter 58, Zoning Code, related to permitted uses in all residential zoning districts to allow hens on parcels of any size.

Community Development Director Tollefson stated the text amendment related to permitted uses to allow chickens on parcels of any size did go before the Planning Commission on September 8, but the Commission did not recommend the change to the text. Ms. Tollefson reviewed the list of criteria to allow chickens on lots of less than ten acres, noting additional conditions recommended by the Public Welfare Committee have been added. Alderman Pukaite suggested adding no roosters to the list of criteria.

The Committee went on to voice their views related to allowing chickens on lots of any size. Alderman Gierl suggested adding a permit fee. Alderman Mayr provided information on the pros and cons of raising chickens.

Alderman Pukaite stated she would be in favor of a permit fee and having neighbors sign off on the permit.

The following amendments were made:

Action: Motion to add adjacent neighbors must sign off on the permit (neighbors to the rear and two sides)
(Mayr/Pukaite)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 3/0

Action: Motion to add subsequent owners will not need to sign off on permit. (Mayr/Pukaite)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 3/0

Action: Motion to change lot size to 1 ½ acres (Pukaite/Gierl)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 2/1

Action: Motion to include no roosters (Pukaite/Gierl)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 3/0

Action: Motion to add permit fee in the amount of \$200 (Pukaite/Gierl)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 3/0

Action: Motion to recommend text amendment related to chickens as amended to Common Council
(Pukaite/Gierl)

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. 2/1

Discussion of city zoning code enforcement and procedures

The discussion of city zoning code enforcement and procedures will be brought back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Adjourn

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

Result: Motion passed by voice acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lina Prosser, Executive Assistant

CITY OF MEQUON PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE