

MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
November 18, 2013

Members of Community Development Committee present: Leslie Kelly, Monica DeBrock, Scott A. Barrett, Cornelius McGrady III, Mel Clemens, Chris Long.

President of Council Doug Joseph was not present.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes 11/04/2013.

Ratification of amended Mid-Ohio Regional Planning commission (MORPC) Articles of Agreement (Resolution and supportive material attached) ---sent to Council for second reading on 11-12-2013.

Motion to send to council for third reading and recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Second by Mr. Barrett. All voted "Aye". Motion Carries.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Community Development
- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
November 18, 2013

MINUTES SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
November 18, 2013

Members of Community Development Committee present: Chris Long, Scott Barrett, Leslie Kelly, Cornelius McGrady III, Mel Clemens, Monica DeBrock.

President of Council Doug Joseph was not present.

Temporary Chairman Long called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes 11/04/2013.

Discussion: Repeal 505.01 (m)(5) from the definition of vicious dog or other vicious animals. This would eliminate the breed specific ordinance defining pit bull dogs as vicious animals.

Mr. Long: Before we get into the speaker slips, I am going to adhere tonight to Council Rules Article 9, Section 2 (B) which states no member or person shall be permitted to speak longer than 3 minutes at any one time or longer than a total of 5 minutes. We were here almost 2 hours last meeting and I don't know that we're going to hear anything more but now we'll get into the discussions. First speaker Joel Melin.

Joel Melin, Veterinarian: Dr. Melin stated that breed specific legislation doesn't make sense and that the statistics included in a form that he passed out showed that pit bulls can be bad, but so can other breeds. In 30 years of practice, he states that pit bull dogs are not the breed he fears most. He says that he feels that they get an inordinate amount of attention. Dr. Melin stated that there was no way to define the breed other than pit bull like. He believes that small breed dogs probably have more bites that go unreported because they are not as severe and therefore don't get the bad press. He feels that the pit bull has been profiled. The AVMA has released a statement to the similar and is included in his material. He feels it just isn't fair to the whole breed to maintain the ban.

Mr. Long: Any questions from the committee for the doctor?

Mrs. DeBrock: Would you say that we have pit bulls, without pointing any fingers at clients, do we have pit bulls in Reynoldsburg currently?

Dr. Melin: I would have to believe that answer is yes.

Mrs. DeBrock: I would assume it is very hard to enforce a breed specific vs. behavior specific ordinance.

Dr. Melin: Correct. If you're going to look at, American Staffordshire Terrier is the breed specific that pit bulls are based on. Those dogs that get called pit bulls probably have that somewhere in their ancestry, maybe. They may also have boxer, they may have any number of other breed genetics in there but they have a certain look that people say "oh that's a pit bull" or something like a pit bull and it creates usually a fearful reaction if you are fearful of the breed and believe me, for doing this 30 plus years, I can say they are not a breed that if I see on my schedule, scheduled to come in that I'm worried about. There are several other breeds I would have more trepidation walking into a room and never having met before than a pit bull or pit bull cross.

Mrs. DeBrock: Another question would be that for every pro somebody's got a website for something against and so doing a lot of research and reading trying to weigh information that I received from concerned residents, one of them was well if the military is banning pit bulls then why shouldn't the city. But then doing after more research, some military bases are actually banning 5 of

the larger stronger breeds and after doing the research it isn't so much that they're a problem dog but that if the men get deployed, they have problems finding foster homes for some dogs. After doing the research whereas a lot of people think that pit bulls must be a bad dog because the military is banning them on base when in fact it has to do with deployment and being able to find foster care. Have you heard anything that would be different from that mindset that it really isn't the dog themselves but it's the fact that the military would have problem housing these animals.

Dr. Melin: I assume you're talking about base housing.

Mrs. DeBrock: Correct.

Dr. Melin: There are several breeds that would probably fall under that category and you bring up a point there that whether it's a pit bull or a Rottweiler or German Shepherd or any other crosses, boxers, akitas, any of those breeds.. its not really the dog that is the bad egg here, it is the person that is working with the dog and what they're using it for. There are certain breeds, like Rottweilers and pit bulls and shepherds that get employed by not necessarily the nicest people that live in neighborhoods and they employ those dogs because they are big and can be aggressive and train them to be that way and if you want a dog to be bad, I don't care what breed it is, you can make that dog bad and dangerous to anybody that walks through that door that you don't invite in. I would assume on the bases there because many of the dogs we're talking about are will imprint on their owners and will say this is my owner, this is my house, sometimes it can be difficult to move them into a different location because they never had to listen to someone else. If it's a big dog, again, I don't care what breed it is, they can be dangerous, they can be poorly trained and there is no one that can control them.

Mr. Long: Thank you sir.

Mr. Barrett: You mentioned the different, pit bull and different names, Jed maybe you could help me out with this but I have the legal definition of a pit bull as a class of dogs that includes the following breeds: American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, Staffordshire pit bull terrier, American Bulldog and any other purebred or mixed breed dog that has a combination of these dogs, is that consistent with what we're calling a pit bull?

Mr. Hood: No, it's not. Our definition is before you tonight and it's any dog that's commonly known or has those features. I'm sure the doctor would have a better understanding of those than I do, so I would not offer my opinion, but the definition is before you and I would not ask you to go outside and look for more clarity on that. It's just what it is.

Mr. Long: any further questions?

Mrs. DeBrock: Based upon our definition in the Reynoldsburg code, do you think that is something that someone not trained to care for animals can identify? Could I identify a pit bull type of dog?

Dr. Melin: Any person could identify a dog as a pit bull but would every person identify the same dog as a pit bull would be the question mark because what you're stereotype of a pit bull could be different from what mine is and from what anybody's is could be a little bit different and it gets into a really grey area. What is a pit bull and how can I say that this one is or isn't, you can't, and even if you could, there is no reason to believe that this pit bull, whether it's an American Staffordshire,

some of those names, I think are just variations on the same theme. I don't know that they're recognized as specific breeds or not but they're not all bad dogs and I think that's where it falls through.. if you're going to take a shot at dogs that are dangerous, absolutely- those dogs need to be off the street I don't care what breed they are, if they're a threat to a person's well-being they should be away, I addressed that but to say that all pit bulls, why don't you say all Rottweilers, because if you get attacked by a Rottweiler, you're going to be in worst shape than probably a pit bull because they're about 20lbs heavier on average. So it doesn't make sense to single out one breed as the bad egg when there are lots of dogs that can be very bad and very dangerous. I could have you meet several pit bulls that would roll over on their back and let you rub their belly because that's what they do. They're not a dangerous dog, and that's unfair that they would be classified as dangerous because somebody has created a stereotype which is basically what has happened that says pit bulls are bad dogs and it doesn't hold true for every individual at all.

Mrs. DeBrock: I want to thank you as a profession in our community a veterinarian to come forward and to speak on this topic, I really do appreciate it.

Dr. Melin: If anybody should have questions and want to talk to me privately, I would be more than happy to, give me a call. It's just the right thing to do. It's right to have a law to protect people from dogs that can be bad, it's not right to say one dog will always be bad when that's not the case.

Mr. Long: Next speaker slip, Darice Sowell.. Bruce.

Mr. Sowell: Bruce Sowell, 6345 Rygate Dr. Mr. Sowell states that he moved to the city to enjoy the schools, parks, neighborhoods and safety forces. He says that though "home rule" which allows for many opportunities that some communities don't have. He has thought about the pit bull situation and feels that with the current situation, he feels safe allowing his nephews to play in the yard. He would have reservations if there were pit bull dogs living next door because he wouldn't be able to tell if the owner was a good owner or a bad owner. He feels that many of them get bad names because of bad owners but he doesn't feel like he could take the chance that either of his nephews would be safe regardless. He notes that there is no animal control officer and that with 36,000 residents, the issue must be weighed. He states that he must think of his neighbors that consist, in his ward, of middle age and senior folks and if one of them run into a bad dog or bad owner, he fears the outcome. He is staunchly opposed to any change of the ordinance. He is aware that other communities have changed their laws but does not feel that Reynoldsburg should change theirs.

Mrs. DeBrock: Would you have a concern with a Rottweiler right next door? We just heard from a veterinarian that with an irresponsible owner, it too could be dangerous and actually do more damage than a pit bull. Would you be concerned with a Rottweiler right next door.

Mr. Sowell: I would be concerned with any dog who's owner is not the type of person that takes care of the dog. But we don't know if it's a good owner or bad owner. (inaudible). Protects us and if it protects us I don't see a point in changing. You could possibly address the person that's the bad owner but we can't tell that. If someone were to move into your neighborhood today and they happen to be that bad owner that trains their dog, most of us in law enforcement do know that a lot of times they're trained to protect their stashes so we don't know if this dog has been trained to protect their stashes or protect the family, we don't know that. This law has been in effect for many many years and it has been effective. I can walk down the street with my nephews if I so choose to and not

worry. It's not about breed specific to me, it could follow any type of breed but this one this breed is a problem. It's a problem for Columbus, Whitehall, for a lot of neighborhoods and we have to weight that with the wishes of the whole community, not just the few. I'm part of that whole community.

Mr. Long: Thank you sir, Bruce, hold on a second. President Joseph.

Mr. Joseph: Mr. Sowell, I'm sure there are bad owners of other large breed dogs in the city of Reynoldsburg, German Shepherds, Rottweilers, others that were mentioned. If we do have those bad owners with those kinds of dogs, do you think we should just ban all large dogs in the city since there are bad owners with those kind of dogs, do you think that is something that we should do to improve safety, and if not why.

Mr. Sowell: Ok, once again, we don't have an animal control officer that can deal with these individual bad owners and any particular time in the city. That is going to fall on the first line of defense which is our safety forces. Then, once again, if they can't get a handle on it, we have to call Franklin County Animal Control. If we had folks that were willing and able to deal with these bad owners at a specific time or they were ordered to come into our court or anything where we could deal with that, that would probably weigh a little differently, but we don't have that. That's based on dollars and cents. As a community, we pay for Franklin County Animal Control to ** any situation that we have. ** I'm not saying we have to ban all dogs, I'm a dog lover myself, I really am. But I have to take into consideration my nephews, my neighbor's kids, anything else and I'm not going to be the person that sits there and says well we changed our ordinance and the next day someone got killed. What do you tell people or a relative.. this is not a problem in Reynoldsburg. This ordinance was put in there to address a problem and has been since the late 80s I believe and has been effective and I see no reason why we should go through that point.

Mr. Long: Thank you Mr. Sowell. Next speaker slip is Mr. John Estep.

Mr. Estep: 6655 Estate view Dr. Blacklick. Mr. Estep is a police officer of 28 years and is the owner of 2 pit bulls. He never intended to end up with them but they were rescue dogs. One was given to him by a family member that moved into an apartment and could not afford the security deposit. He had children at home and was concerned at the start but once she moved in she immediately got along with the family dog that was already in the home and three years later the dog was joined by another pit bull dog. They don't look similar in their features but are some sort of pit bull mixes. His son had to learn how to handle their previous dog because he would sometimes hurt him. Now the two dogs sleep with his son. The dogs never act aggressive to his son. He feels that his dogs have turned out to be very good dogs despite the stereotypes. His experience as a police officer is that all dogs bite. The only question is what prompts the dog to bite. He was bitten twice, once as a kid when a neighbor had a dog and bit him when he tried to finish mowing their yard. The dog was a retired police dog. As a professional, he had gotten a complaint on a dog, which was a pit bull, that was confined to a fenced in yard and he attempted to pet the dog which then tried to bite. He was able to avoid the bite by pulling away quickly. He knows he had intruded on the dog. Another incident involved a German Shepherd dog that had to be shot and killed because it was being aggressive and couldn't be contained. He feels any dog can be a bad dog and that it is the owner's responsibility to maintain the dog.

Mrs. DeBrock: Do you recall, was the pit bull, was he neutered, was he trained to fight?

Mr. Estep: I don't know. It was a dog we had gotten complaints on, we never found the dog loose. As I recall, people were afraid that he was going to get loose and the owners actually had him chained inside the fenced in yard but he could get up to the fence and he was just sitting there and reached in. But he didn't bite me. The dog was licensed and that was the end of it, a lesson learned on my part.

Mr. Barrett: Chairman Long, in the interest of time, could I suggest that we only hear from residents of Reynoldsburg? I'd be willing to concede and I think maybe the other councilmembers would also that anybody from outside Reynoldsburg would be speaking on behalf of pit bulls and again, in the essence of time and frankly, for the respect of the others on the committee and the other business we have to handle.

Mr. Long: Councilman Clemens?

Mr. Clemens: I don't mind the outsiders but let's keep it down to the 3 minutes it's supposed to be.

Mr. Long: We are going begin to adhere to that more strictly than what we have up until now but I understand that there have been numerous questions and so forth coming from..

Mr. Clemens: I understand Scotts opinion and I agree but as long as we cut it down to time limit.

Inaudible talking.

Mr. Long: next speaker is Phyllis Lumpkin and Sandy Westerwiller.

Ms. Westerwiler: Tanya Terrace. See attached testimony.

Ms. Lumpkin: 1105 Carousel Dr. E. Ms. Lumpkin states she is afraid of not only pit bulls but Dobermans, German Shepherds and others as well. She did have an incident with a pit bull at her home. A neighbor had a pit bull in their back yard that jumped into her backyard when a friend's grandson was playing. The feared for the child because they weren't sure if the dog was going to go after the child or the ball. They did call Reynoldsburg police but when the officer arrived the dog was back in its own yard. They did talk to the neighbor but nothing was done. She states that people get mad when they bring pit bulls into the city and are told they can't have their dog because it is illegal. She points out that the Reynoldsburg news shared a story where a pit bull bit a delivery person in the city limits. She points out that if the ordinance was enforced there should be zero bites from pit bulls in the city. She feels bad that pit bulls get a bad rap but that something happened to cause it in the first place.

Mrs. DeBrock: I would appreciate a little tolerance from the other council people up here as we discuss as a community this topic. Thank you for coming in. Now the one thing about that article because that was obviously something that caught my eye as soon as I saw it, but right below it was an article where a Great Dane that had not been vaccinated for 2-4 years and bit someone that had to have medical treatment. So it's not the pit bull.

Ms. Lumpkin: It's not, but here's the yin and yang of the whole situation, the first one was the pit bull and I guess just because, like you it caught my eye also.

Mr. Long: Next speaker is Megan Guthrie.

Ms. Guthrie: My name is Megan Guthrie 4327 Chesford Rd. Ms. Guthrie states that she is 21 years old and has had small dogs growing up- poodles. She states that they are nippy dogs and have been to the hospital from bites from poodles. She has worked with Franklin County Dog Shelter walking pit bull type dogs. For the last couple of years she has had several pit bull type dogs through her home. She works for a pet supplies store and says that 90% of her day she sees pit bull type dogs. She has no bite wounds from pit bull type dogs, but she does from a 12 lb poodle. She doesn't understand how in this community people want to worry about the safety of residents. Many of her rescue friends have children as young as infants and toddlers. She would also like to counter that some dogs have bad owners and are just trained that way. Michael Vick and his dog fighting ring, 49 of his 50 dogs that were trained to fight other dogs are now in homes as therapy dogs with infants, children, going into nursing home and are perfectly acceptable dogs. Any dog can be rehabilitated and trained to be vicious she states. She feels it's on the individual dog, not the owner. She feels that if she brought her pit bull into Reynoldsburg that it doesn't make her or her dog vicious. She feels that people should be able to enjoy the city with their pet as long as it is a sound behavioral pet.

Mr. Barrett: Chairman Long, did we decide that we were going to only hear people from Reynoldsburg from this point on?

Mr. Long: No sir we didn't, and just talking to Councilman Clemens and I didn't hear anything from any other members of the committee and Councilwoman DeBrock asked for a little bit of levity there because we are adhering to the three minutes and I understand that this lady is from the city of Columbus but she had her opportunity to speak her peace.

Ms. Guthrie: Sorry Councilman Barrett.

(inaudible talking)

Mr. Clemens: I look at it this way, if they're out of city, they can speak, it's not going to change my vote any. So let them speak I don't care.

Mr. Long: Next speaker is Carrie Acosta.

Ms. Acosta: 6550 Old Mill Run. She states she's been doing a lot of research and has listened to the other speakers and is concerned that the stigma attached to the pit bull.. that if the law was repealed, the city would need to spend more money to monitor people to make sure they were following the law. She states that the ordinance was passed and she doesn't see that it's repeal should be priority at this point in time. She recognizes the passion of the previous speakers but doesn't feel comfortable seeing changes to this law without additional monitoring in place and doesn't feel that the city has the resources and does not support putting those resources in place so that pit bulls could be allowed. It comes down to the money for her. It just isn't a priority and feels there should be other places where attention should be given.

Mr. Long: Brad Houser.

Mr. Houser: Mr. Houser states he would keep brief as there has been substantial testimony on the subject. He states he is a resident and resides at 6897 Roundalay Rd. N. Mr. Houser states that contacts from Cincinnati, Whitehall, and Toledo stepped forward to offer their thoughts and expertise. He trusts that these contacts provided the info sought. He adds that additional testimony that was prepared contained letters from veterinarians from Reynoldsburg and if councilmembers were interested to continue that dialogue, they would oblige. He asks that members scrutinize every bit of evidence presented stating that statistics from newspaper articles are not scientifically valid and can't be used to draw valid scientific conclusions. He states that he has a Masters of Science from OSU and offers this as his establishment of authority to speak about statistics. He questions as to if the ban is effective and what is put into place to measure the effectiveness. He questions also those people that state they are afraid of biting pit bulls in their neighborhood, what about the numerous other dogs that show aggression towards people and can live in the community by the owner simply getting a permit. He states that as the veterinarian pointed out, it's just the right thing to do and he is growing weary of having to deal with this issue. He feels that the evidence is overwhelming in support of repealing the ordinance. He states that Councilman Barrett called their campaign a joke in individual meetings.

Mr. Barrett: I don't recall saying that actually.

Mr. Long: Mr. Houser, please, we're not here to argue back and forth about things...

Mr. Houser: But that's what we're doing.

Mr. Long: No sir, we're here to hear your testimony. Thank you Sir. Next speaker is Dr. Harkins.

Mrs. DeBrock: I would, its basically, we've gotten information from and we've heard from, we've had testimony, plenty of reading and it's all good because it's something that.. change isn't easy for the City of Reynoldsburg. I think given the information we're seeking is a good thing. I've had numerous phone calls, and emails from constituents both in support and not in support and so I had one phone call where they said I can't believe you've wasted your time with this topic and I said no this is not a waste, this is citizens that have a concern that have brought it forward to council. This is your council. So I do not see it as a waste of time, so thank you.

Mr. Long: I'm sorry, Councilman Clemens?

Mr. Clemens: I do want to thank you for the information you've sent, you have, it has been important how you've handled it. I'm not big on family stories, but I am, when I comes down to it the material you've sent us, whether I agree or disagree that's immaterial, you did the job and I want to thank you for that.

Mr. Houser: I appreciate you acknowledging that sir. Thank you.

Mr. McGrady: I have to go back and say something that Councilwoman DeBrock said and I shared with you when I met with you. The hill of change, and it seems like everywhere I turn I run into an article of some sort. Even Time Magazine had an article and then there was another TV Show on one

of the cable channels there was a story about the pit bull. In my mind I said, it's a cycle but it's going to take some time to get past the stereotype that has been plastered so long. Even in the article the first dog they every tapped as vicious years ago was the Bloodhound and it took a cycle on that. It's been very educational and I appreciate that. Thank you.

Mr. Houser: thank you.

Mr. Long: I agree Mr. Houser with Councilman Clemens and Councilman McGrady. You have put due diligence, time and effort and it's been an education process for everyone up here. Councilman Barrett.

Mr. Barrett: I'll weigh in. First off I want to apologize because for whatever reason, I didn't give you the answer I think you were looking for at our original meeting and I think you have walked away with a certain opinion. I agree, you've done an outstanding job, I think I told you that, maybe you might not remember that either. You guys have done a wonderful job and you have brought a lot to light, number 1, this isn't just reversing something. There's a lot of pieces to it and it needs to be revisited in greater detail. Unfortunately, what you're asking for I don't think is appropriate. It lacks enforcement and really what you're asking for is to repeal what we have in place. That's what's in front of us right now, that's what's presented and frankly I think that's limited because the constituents that I've talked to and I've actually spent a great deal of time doing that, and I think you know that. The bottom line is how is this going to make our community safer by repealing that ordinance and I can't get that from community or anyone else I've polled and even with your information so just.. Again, I want to make sure you're clear, I sense you're kind of frustrated and...

Mr. Houser: My only thing is when you say how is it going to make our community safer, there is no way to measure that because there are no current metrics in place to gage the effectiveness of the law. We've presented statistics that show you the current law isn't not even being enforced. So to me it's a non sequitor. It makes no sense to me...

Mr. Barrett: A greater scope of things then need to be looked at other than just...

Mr. Houser: No I agree with you the entire chapter 505 needs to be revised, not just 505.01.05 I agree completely.

Mr. Barrett: but you realize what's in front of us right now right?

Mr. Houser: I do understand that.

Mr. Joseph: Since the legislation before us was referenced that I have sponsored that, I'll address that this is a place holder piece of legislation. It is not by any means a final document. If this committee wants to continue the dialog with the people that want to see this ordinance changed, my proposal is that we work together, see where we have common ground on checks and balances while still looking at seeing how we can accommodate the people who support revising this law. Obviously this is not going to be the one we pass but it was a starting point to start the discussion, much like in the state legislative procedures, you can have one bill introduced and it doesn't look anything like it at the end because they go through dozens of hearings. That's the way it works at the state level. If we want to change this that gives everybody a little something, we might have to

follow that same model here, I know there are people up here that don't want to take this topic beyond tonight, but it seems like every couple years we have a big issue in this city and it's not something we solve in one or two committee meetings. It's something that might take several committee meetings. That's my idea, that we continue the dialog...

Mr. Long: Mr. Joseph, you have a piece of legislation before you, it's either up or down.

Mr. Joseph: It can be modified before it's ever passed.

Mr. Long: It is going to be put before a motion this evening.

Mr. Joseph: And that's the choice of council, council could take this and say we are now going to modify this, we've done that I don't know how many times, we do it all the time. We modify legislation. We change this, we change that, we rip out entire pages, but if council wants to just say, ok this is the document we're going to vote on tonight, obviously the majority can do that. I think it's a mistake...

Mr. Long: We will entertain a motion.

Mr. Joseph: I think it's a mistake but my view is if we want to try to solve the problem because, I agree, going back to some of the comments earlier, if someone is afraid there might be a pit bull next door, why wouldn't they be afraid of a German Shepherd, or Doberman, or Rottweiler...

Mr. Long: I agree with you completely. And I have had numerous conversations, one of them with a friend of mine sitting out here in the audience about that same aspect. This is not about the animal, but we have a legislative request which is a piece of legislation that's going to be put forward and we will entertain to see if there is a motion tonight to send it onto council for its first reading. Councilman Barrett.

Mr. Barrett: Real quick, again, would this be an appropriate application for you to appoint an ad hoc committee? Special committees for limited purposes and that they would report back to council...

Mr. Joseph: We could do that yes. We could do an ad hoc committee that could study it further and then bring a final report back to council.

Mr. Barrett: I'm just curious.

Mr. Long: That could be done and then we can bring this issue back up after a viable solution has been put together that all members can agree with and that the public is comfortable with. But once again, my position has not changed on the legislation as it is proposed.

Mr. Joseph: If we were to do something like that Mr. Chairman, again, I would like to have some input from the people that are looking to have a change in this ordinance. This is something that could be put on hold until such time that a list of recommendations are sent to council and then the document can be amended. I would ask the question sir, would that be something that would be acceptable to you and your associates, to have an independent body of citizens that council would appoint to study this issue, looking at all the data you've already supplied to us and even to go

beyond, like you said, if you see things that need to be changed in 505 that go beyond what we talk about here, they can look at all of those things to get a much better ordinance for the city. Would that be something you'd be supportive of. This is not something that will happen over night, this could take weeks, months.

Mr. Houser: We've been here a year or so I do understand that and I very much appreciate the willingness to move forward but before I answer, I'd like to defer to Councilwoman DeBrock.

Mrs. DeBrock: I've had a lot of questions and concerns, I've been throwing questions back and forth asking for statistics, information, what other communities are doing, what is working, what isn't working, a lot of the research I've done on my own other I've had help. It has come down to this is not just about changing the breed specific legislation, this is about making sure our community is safe. It is not currently safe. We do not have animal control, if a neighbor has a dog that is a nuisance dog, they basically have no recourse in this community, that is wrong and so what we have been talking about, and they brought a veterinarian so I could have a one on one conversation which was wonderful, it brought up so many questions. We need to regulate dogs that are vaccinated and licensed. Do you know that in Franklin County only 31% of the dogs are vaccinated and licensed? We have a community are not safe. We have dogs that are our neighbor's dogs that are not properly permitted, that's wrong. Part of our conversation is, well, how do we get someone that we can help control the dogs we already have? There are pit bulls already here we have dogs that are wonderful family dogs, we have dogs that are not so wonderful. We want, everybody wants to make sure that those that are irresponsible dog owners are held accountable. So the question is can we set up some sort of legislation to where, can we surcharge dog licenses so we can afford to put that money into an animal control. Can we start fining people who are not neutering aggressive dogs, can we start fining people that are not licensing their dog? We want to make sure those irresponsible animal owners are the ones that are footing the bills for our community for the dogs and animals that are giving everyone a bad rap. The conversations that I've had, is they are willing to discuss, it's a whole project of making our community safer, it's not just the breed specific. So, I don't think we need an ad hoc, I think as far as experts that they have, we could reach out to so many veterinarians here in town we have resources in our community that can help us. I don't think we need an ad hoc, I think the best thing we could do is put it on hold, work on our code and then get it typed and present it to the community and this council.

Mr. Long: Councilman Clemens?

Mr. Clemens: I go for an ad hoc committee.

Mr. Long: I would as well. So members of the committee, I'm going to make a motion that we move this item number 4, the repeal of 505.01(m)(5) to other legislation until at which time it can then be moved back into active legislation and changed..

Mr. Joseph: Mr. Chairman, I didn't get an answer regarding whether the supporters of revising this ordinance are in favor..

Mr. Long: Mr. Houser already stood there and said he's been here for 6 months.

Mr. Joseph: I think it would be helpful to know if they are supportive of going the ad hoc route or

would they rather have council continue to debate this directly.

Mr. Clemens: There is a motion on the floor.

Mr. Long: There is a motion on the floor sir.

Mr. Joseph: yes, but I'd like an answer to that question.

Inaudible

Mr. Joseph: I asked the question before you made the motion.

Mr. Long: I believe that Mr. Houser gave you an answer.

Mr. Joseph: I did not get an answer.

Mr. Long: Mr. Houser would you like to answer President Joseph please.

Mr. Houser: I did defer to Councilwoman DeBrock.

Mr. Joseph: correct, that's why I was waiting for an answer.

Mr. Houser: Again, I do appreciate the good will gesture to move forward, however, I will say that we believe the proposal by Councilwoman DeBrock is the best move in the interest of Reynoldsburg. We very much appreciate the good will gesture to form the ad hoc committee and that was one of the things we suggested very early on in the process and were told it was probably not a good idea and would not help our campaign. So we're going to stick with Councilwoman DeBrock's motion and whether you choose to vote that down is you're prerogative.

Mr. Clemens: There wasn't a motion made.

Mr. Hood: Could we hang on just a second? Just to clarify, there has been a motion and a second and a question. I think the question has now been answered, correct President Joseph?

Mr. Joseph: Correct.

Mr. Hood: I didn't hear, unless I'm hard of hearing, Mrs. DeBrock make any motion, she was addressing concerns of hers and council. We have one motion and one second right now? Do you want to call for a roll call then?

Mr. Long: Absolutely.

Mr. Hood: Thank you.

Mr. Joseph: Lets clarify, what we are doing here is we are voting to send this to other legislation and an ad hoc committee would be appointed.

Mr. Long: yes

Mr. Joseph: Ok.

Mr. Long: Mrs. Beggerow would you please call the roll starting with Councilman McGrady?

Mrs. Beggerow: Councilman McGrady, Yes, Councilman Clemens, Yes, Councilman Long, Yes, Councilwoman DeBrock, No, Councilman Barrett, Aye, Councilwoman Kelly, Aye.

Mr. Long: Thank you. That is 5 affirmative, 1 no, we will be moving this to other legislation and we will be forming the ad hoc committee to come up with a solution.

Mr. Hauser: Thank you very much.

Mr. Long: Thank you. This brings us to item number 5:

ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE CONSENT FROM THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG FOR ODOT REPAIR AND RESURFACING PROJECT FOR SR256 (PID 92960) AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY. ---sent to Council for second reading on 10-28-2013.

Motion to send to council for its third reading. Seconded by Mr. McGrady. All voted "Aye" . Motion carries.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Safety Committee

-- April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
November 18, 2013

MINUTES SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
November 18, 2013

Members of Service Committee present: Mel Clemens, Cornelius McGrady III, Chris Long, Monica DeBrock, Scott A. Barrett, Leslie Kelly.

President of Council Doug Joseph was not present.

Chairman Clemens called the meeting to order at 8:50 p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes held 11/04/2013.

Next is an item that has been held. It was sent to Planning Commission and it's been laying there. I brought this up and it's not, I'm not going to send it to council with my approval. I'd like this to be reviewed by the administration and possibly like to meet with the mayor and the service director and discuss what our plans are about an engineering firm or how we're going to operate our engineering situation. We may not want to use this, it depends on how the administration feels they want to approach it and how they want to approach an engineering service so.. I'd like to put this on hold.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: Amending Chapter 1119 Final Plat Section 1119.07 "Bond, Letter of Credit for Improvements: Deposit and Insurance" Subsection (b) first paragraph; various Sections of Chapter 1127 Standards and Table of Contents; Chapter 1143 Zoning Certificate; Site Plan; Plot-Grade-Utility Plan Section 1143.01 "Purpose"; Section 1143.04 "Plot-Grade-Utility Plan" Subsections (a); (b)(1); (b)(13); (b)(14); and (b)(15); Chapter 1355 House Numbering Section 1355.02 "Engineer to Assign House Numbers"; and Table 1155 "Zoning Code Fees". - -Public Hearing held 6-17-13; item referred to Planning Commission mtg on 7-11-13, Planning Commission recommended approval July 11, 2013

Motion to put it on hold for 2 months. Seconded by Mr. McGrady. All voted "Aye" Motion carries.

Mr. Joseph: So you want it held until first committee meeting in January?

Mr. Clemens: That would be fine. Next item on the agenda:

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY ATTORNEY HOOD TO EXECUTE LETTER AGREEMENT WITH OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. THIS AGREEMENT IS BEING SUBMITTED TO THE OEPA IN FULFILLMENT OF THE OEPA'S DIRECTOR'S FINAL FINDINGS AND ORDERS IMPOSED ON THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG IN 2009. ---sent to Council for first reading on 10-28-2013.

Motion to move to council for second reading. Seconded by Mrs. Kelly. All voted "Aye" Motion carries.

Next item is the sidewalk ordinance proposed by Scott (Barrett). Mr. Barrett would you like to address the issue?

Mr. Barrett: I'd like this to move forward..

Mr. Joseph: We have to have a vote on the amended form.

Mr. Barrett: Ok do you want me go through the language? I'd like to move to amend this..

Mr. Clemens: We have a motion to amend, second by Councilman McGrady.

All voted "Aye" to the changes. Amendment carries.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE THE PREPARATION OF BIDS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATE OF COST, FOR THE ENGINEERING PORTION OF THE SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR PHASE 6 AS DESCRIBED IN ORD. 13-94 AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY. FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT TO BE TAKEN FROM THE SIDEWALK FUND. THE SERVICE DIRECTOR WILL HAVE THIS COMPLETE AND RETURNED TO COUNCIL WITH A SELECTED ENGINEERING FIRM BY 1-1-14.

Mr. Clemens: Basically what this does is finishes up our sidewalk program.

Mr. Barrett: it at least gets us to where we will know what the costs are and presenting it as an emergency would be so we could get the bids back and decide how that or if it could fit into the budget.

Mr. Joseph: Where is phase 6?

Mr. Barrett: it's basically Rose Hill road and west.

Mrs. DeBrock: as far as the budget, there is a sidewalk fund that we currently have. So the city budget doesn't affect the sidewalk fund correct? so the question is then, the time frame is not being forced by next year's budget?

Mr. Barrett: I think the idea would be that since we should well be under way budget discussions by now hopefully we'll be doing that shortly, but that way we'd have that cost as soon as possible so...

Mr. Burd: I know in previous phases the engineering has been paid for out of the sidewalk and I'm assuming, not consulting the auditor's office that would be the case again. If I could just ask a couple of quick questions, we're looking at Phase 6 correct, not phases 6, 7, and 8 we're going phase by phase, is that the plan? My other question would be, is the plan to go through this 3 readings? Or was this to be passed next week, the reason I ask is because the 1-1-14 deadline can't be met if this goes through three readings. Just for my purposes... When we ask for RFQ's for engineering firms we give them three weeks to get something back to us and then we have to have a couple weeks to get a committee together to review the proposals and if this passes next week it can happen. If it goes late into November we would be altering our normal process pretty dramatically especially given the holiday season.

Mr. Clemens: Mr. Barrett would you like to make a motion to move this to council?

Mr. Barrett: yes

Mrs. Kelly: I second.

Mr. Clemens: Motion by Scott (Barrett) second by Councilwoman Kelly. All voted "Aye" motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59

Service Committee

- - -April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council

November 18, 2013

MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
November 18, 2013

Members of Finance Committee present: Chris Long, Monica DeBrock, Scott A. Barrett, Leslie Kelly, Cornelius McGrady III, Mel Clemens.

President of Council Doug Joseph was not present.

Councilman Long called the meeting to order at 8:59 p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes 10/7-- held for review and 10/21.

Discussion: Council appointments for Planning Commission - - - item was held on 4-1-13; 4-15-13; 5-6-13; 5-20-13; 6-3-13; 6-17-13. On 7-1-13 item held as one appointment is still needed; one appointment was made during Council meeting on 6-24-13. *On 11-4-11 item held for two weeks.*

Discussion: Request Council transfer \$2,693.00 from the unappropriated FEMA Fund (201) to the Street Fund (260) Revenue Account 260.000.4922 Property Damage Reimbursement. This was money paid to the city for last year's wind event.

Questions?

Motion to send to council for first reading. Seconded by Mrs. Kelly. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.

Discussion: Request Council transfer \$3,106.11 from the unappropriated Brice main TIF Fund (971) to account number 971.000.5527. This is to pay schools their share per TIF agreement.

Questions?

Motion to send to council for first reading with a recommendation for adoption as an emergency.. Seconded by Mr. Barrett. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 94-12 PASSED ON DECEMBER 17, 2012 THAT WAIVES COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR VARIOUS EXEMPTED CONTRACTS AND EXPENDITURES OVER \$10,000 BY ADDING FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH. --

-sent to Council for first reading on 10-28-2013.

Questions?

Motion to send to council for second reading. Seconded by Mr. Clemens. All voted "Aye".
Motion carries.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AND WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE 2014-2015 TOTAL COLIFORM, TTHM'S, HAA5'S SAMPLING PER OEPA ---sent to Council for first reading on 10-28-2013.

Questions?

Motion to send to council for second reading. Seconded by Mr. McGrady. All voted "Aye".
Motion carries.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 160.02(a). This would allow City Council to employ one full-time Assistant Clerk of Council. Currently, City Council is authorized to employ two part-time assistants. This change would consolidate the two part-time positions into one full-time position---sent to Council for second reading 10-28-2013.

Mr. Clemens: I think that we should send this to council, but with recommendations that we don't pass it. I think the part time as far as I'm concerned is..

Mr. Long: I almost agree with you Mr. Clemens, but not quite totally. I've given some thought and considering Mrs. Beggerow's abilities and what she's been able to do these past few weeks, while I don't think we need to go through the expense of an external company taking a look at our internal processes, I think we've moved a little too quickly on this and maybe we need to give April a little more additional time to work with our IT people and she's proven that she's capable at looking at a manual process and automating it to this point so I would like to propose that we put this on hold for 4 weeks.

Motion carried by Mr. McGrady. Second by Mrs. Kelly. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03.

Finance Committee

- - April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
November 18, 2013

