

MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
May 28, 2019

Ward 2 Councilmember Brett Luzader called the meeting to order at 7:57 PM

Call to Order - Roll Call

PRESENT: Luzader, Baker, Bryant, Skinner, Joseph

ABSENT:

Approval of Agenda

Addion of a discussion on Code Enforcement Officers.

Approval of Minutes

a. Public Service and Transportation Committee – Committee Meeting – May 13, 2019

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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NEW LEGISLATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

ORDINANCE TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF SERVICES PERFORMED PRIOR TO THE AUDITOR’S CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- Luzader. Public Service and Transportation Committee.

Mayor McCloud: There are a lot of moving parts in the construction process of the YMCA and this is one of the things that we got a little bit ahead of ourselves. Some work was done before the purchase order was opened, so that necessitates this request for this legislation.

Mr. Luzader: Its one of those we had the money we just didn't have the purchase order.

Mayor McCloud: Yes, we had this money, this doesn't increase the budget, we didn't get zinged for an interest fee or anything like that, the money was there, we just didn't open the purchase order timely.

Mr. Luzader: We're all good on the timing Auditor?

Inaudible

Mr. Luzader: Thank you very much.

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RESULT:	REFERRED TO COUNCIL [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 5/28/2019 7:35 PM
MOVER:	Brett Luzader, Ward 2 Councilmember	
SECONDER:	Kristin Bryant, At-Large Councilmember	
AYES:	Luzader, Baker, Bryant, Skinner	

Discussion: Code Enforcement Officers

Ms. Bryant: Thank you Councilman Luzader. Since we last met, Sandra Boller has provided me with a memo in regard to some of the positions that would be available if we chose to look at them. The Chief Building Officer is paid at a rate of \$77,653.00, code enforcement officer starting salary on July 1 would be \$33,239.00 and a permit technician would be \$39,832.00. She has indicated to me that we can afford to bring in a code enforcement officer as well as the permit technician and that we would be able to send out some of the work that would be ordinarily handled by the Chief Building Officer, but it seems that it does fall within the budget in order to increase staffing with Code Enforcement and I think most of us can agree that this is something that is desperately needed.

Mr. Luzader: Are there any questions? I just have a couple. The first one would be the permit technician, I know we were looking at actual Code Enforcement officers.

Ms. Bryant: Right. I believe that was the recommendation of the Development Director to do one permit technician and one code enforcement officer.

Mr. Luzader: Who has been writing the permits now?

Mr. Bowsher: Currently it's basically a committee. We have one permit technician, Ms. Slota, that handles the day to day operations handling the majority of that, but when she has lunch, when she's off, basically we're pulling in a Code Enforcement Officer, or pulling somebody else in from that. So you basically have one and a half code enforcement officers that are actively working. We're also starting a training program and we did an audit, myself and the Planning and Zoning Administrator two weeks ago, on June 3rd we're actually working with the City Attorney to work through some of the citations, working up, writing up proper violations and sort of morphing what makes more sense for us. So this is, we're looking at it holistically, we know that we probably need another permit technician especially during our busiest times and that's going to allow us to basically float and not have to take another code enforcement off that way we'll have 3 full time enforcement officers and I think we had asked for a fourth position but we're not going to fill that until we see how full three full time ones will have. I think this will also help with some of the signage problems that I know have been talked about and addressed in the past on the weekends, we'll basically do one weekend a month or figure out some sort of strategy, one would come in on a Saturday and help with some of that. But we're going to get tougher with a lot of our violations and enforcement and it's just something we haven't seen in the past so a lot is going to help fix itself.

Mr. Luzader: Along those same lines, could the permit technician take over the duties of the solicitor permits and I know garage sales are that big a deal, but still it takes time. Different things like that.

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Mr. Bowsher: No, I think that's a wise choice. Right now, basically what you're talking about is we're really hand jamming a lot of it or throwing it into Excel shades, it would be great to sort of have one system where it's all getting tracked together and put into a system and it's something that the Mayor and I are working together on solving that issue. But having that other permit tech would allow us to do that as well.

Mr. Luzader: Are there any other questions from members of the Committee or Council? If we could Mrs. Boller if we could get a copy of that to send to all the members of Council.

Mr. Baker: Does that include a potential part time seasonal code enforcement?

Ms. Bryant: Part of the memo indicates that it difficult to find qualified individuals to work part time given the fact that most people are looking for full time benefits and employment. Although Councilman Luzader had pointed out that some of the duties that occur in the summer as potential seasonal position could be held by somebody that's retired and not looking for that.

Mr. Luzader: That's what I was kind of thinking before. It may not be feasible, but I thought it would be an option worth exploring if..

Ms. Bryant: And I do agree with you there in particular, we're getting calls on grass and garbage and those are the hot topics through the summer and if we had somebody that was on a seasonal basis, they could deal with those 2 issues and leave the other code enforcement officers to deal with the more important issues.

Mr. Bowsher: We can consider that. I think our biggest concern right now is there is a lot of stuff going unchecked basically. We're working on gutters and paint and houses and these are things that we are sort of missing a lot of the times and so those things can be caught up and re-looked at during the winter time. So I feel strongly with what Sandra has written up and going with three but nothing's off the table.

Mr. Luzader: I'm not totally opposed to having another code enforcement officer or even a permit technician, I was just thinking that even if you had just one seasonal that concentrated on nothing but grass and trash, it would let your actual full time code enforcement officers concentrate on property maintenance code, different things like that.

Mr. Bowsher: I still think they would need to cover down just because of how much that we have. There's a lot of deferred maintenance and we're starting to have a lot of older homes and something like that.

Mr. Luzader: It's not going to eliminate it, just alleviate a little bit of the pressure so...

Motion to hold by Mr. Luzder, Second by Councilwoman Bryant. All voted Aye by voice vote.

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LEGISLATION FOR EMERGENCY ADOPTION

64-19

ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 56-19 PASSED APRIL 22, 2019 WHICH READ: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE FROM TOTER RECYCLING CARTS; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- Luzader. Public Service and Transportation Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COUNCIL [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 5/28/2019 7:35 PM
MOVER:	Brett Luzader, Ward 2 Councilmember	
SECONDER:	Caleb Skinner, Ward 1 Councilmember	
AYES:	Luzader, Baker, Bryant, Skinner	