

AGENDA FOR THE CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010, 6:30 PM
SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

(Councilmen Reynolds, Wilcox, Kimes, Rockhold)

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Councilman Tom Joyce, Chairman
- II. ROLL CALL – noted by the Clerk.
- III. MINUTES – Meeting held July 27, 2010 (see below)
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 1. Vacant property ordinance
 2. Health and Property Maintenance Codes
- V. Other general updates from past topics, if needed.
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

The Code Review Committee of City Council met Tuesday, July 27, 2010, at 6:30 PM in the executive conference room on the second floor of the Municipal Building at One Government Square, Parkersburg, WV 26101.

The meeting was called to order by its Chairman, Councilman Tom Joyce, who presided over the meeting. Committee members attending included Mike Reynolds, Nancy Wilcox, Brad Kimes, John Rockhold, and Tom Joyce.

Others attending included Mayor Robert Newell, Jerry Edman, Doug Life, Chief Chichester, and Ann Conageski. Also Jeff McCrady from DNR.

MINUTES – Mr. Kimes moved, seconded by Ms. Wilcox, to approve the minutes from the meeting held June 15, 2010, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS – Urban Deer Management Ordinance

Councilman Rockhold stated that he will attend a state meeting at the Municipal League meeting in Wheeling next week, and this is a topic of some of their discussion.

Mr. Joyce stated that we could withhold action, but we will have to act on the problem. When Mr. Rockhold asked who was certified to take deer meat, Mr. McCrady said that Pioneer Meat was certified, but they don't do it for free, and the hunters are asked to pay the processing fee. If they don't pay, the DNR will help. There is a "Hunters Helping the Hungry" program, he said.

Mr. Rockhold asked about the carcasses going into the trash, and Mr. McCrady said that was illegal now. He added that the closest official game checking station is the 7-11 at Lubeck and Little's Hardware on Rt. 47. We may be able to have a checking station closer. The hunters would have to make sure when they check their deer that they say their location was the City of Parkersburg.

Mr. Kimes asked if we knew how many permits may be issued, Mr. McCrady said they had plenty of permits, but he does not think many people will be asking for them. He suggests the season be two weeks before archery season and through the end of the year. You can kill two deer in the urban hunt.

If someone violates this new law, Mr. McCrady said the DNR would take care of it, but if it is a part of our City ordinance, it would be the City's responsibility. There is something that says you have to comply with State regulations, and the City could enforce any of it, he said.

When Mr. Rockhold asked Mr. McCrady if he had been part of similar hunts, he said this would be his first urban hunt but he has worked on the Blennerhassett hunt and the Middle Island hunt.

Councilman Rockhold stated that deer seem to be friendlier, and there is some concern about disease and sometimes the deer can be violent. When he said it appeared that some are starving, Mr. McCrady said they were supposed to get thin in the winter, and they can lose 25% of their weight. He is not as concerned about that as he is the human problems. He does not think they have had any of them starve, but last year there was a deer behind the Catholic Elementary School, and they euthanized it, and found it was not starved. When deer are in the woods, the food is spread out, and they do not fight over it.

Councilman Joyce asked the Public Works Director if his department could handle this extra responsibility. Mr. Edman said it would take some time, but they will look at the areas to be considered, and it is workable.

Chief Chichester said we should be cautious if the deer get too close to the schools. Mr. McCrady said that if you had a firearm you had to be 500' away, but with a bow you could be closer to a house.

Mr. McCrady added that the official checking station could be wherever the City wanted it to be. Mayor Newell said it would probably be a fire station.

MOTION – Mr. Kimes moved, seconded by Ms. Wilcox, to refer the ordinance to the full Council, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Conageski said they will be working on an inventory of vacant homes in the City, using an intern from her office. We continue to work on the electric codes, awnings, and the sign ordinance to bring to this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Shaffer, City Clerk

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