

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
Monday, November 13, 2017 – 8:54 P.M.
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street**

Present: Alderpersons: Oberstadt, Johnson, Dugan, McComb and Phillips

Also

Present: Mayor Wiza; City Attorney Beveridge; Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick; City Clerk Moe; Alderpersons Jennings, Shorr, Nebel, Slowinski, Kneebone and Morrow; Directors Lemke, Schrader, and Ostrowski; Personnel Manager Jakusz

1. Appeal of service charge for property maintenance violations:

A. 1025 West Pearl Street

Ald. Oberstadt said the appellant could not attend; however, her written testimony is sufficient.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. McComb seconded, to deny the appeal.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

B. 2132 Water Street

This item is postponed as the property owner was not available tonight.

2. License List:

A. New Operator's (Bartender's) Licenses.

B. Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" License (Picnic): Create Portage County, 1039B Ellis Street, Stevens Point, for Wreath Making Workshop on December 2, 2017 at 1220 Briggs Court. Licensed operator on premise: Greg Wright. (Wine Only)

Ald. McComb **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, for approval of the license list.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

3. Ordinance Amendment – Building and Premises Maintenance and Occupancy – Storage of garbage carts (Subsection 21.03(4) of the RMC).

City Attorney Beveridge said minor changes were made to the ordinance as well as removal of language from Chapter 7 that covered the same topic in two places in the ordinances.

Ald. Nebel said another option is that residents could get approval through the Community Development office for an exception to the placement of the carts if the carts are fully screened.

Ald. Oberstadt stated that the largest complaint was that residents thought that their containers could not be visible from the street.

Ald. McComb said the diagrams and wording of the ordinance were examined very closely so they illustrate the same thing.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Dugan seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment as presented.

Ald. Phillips said it is his understanding that if residents cannot comply with any of the diagrams that they should contact the Inspection Department to have someone help them with ideas for placement of their containers.

Mayor Wiza said if they cannot comply with any of the examples listed, then someone from the Community Development office would show them where they could place the containers or have them put up approved screening.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

4. Ordinance Amendment – Officials, Boards, Employees – Creation of an Executive Committee (Sections 2.28 and 2.34 of the RMC).

City Attorney Beveridge said the ordinance would create a new standing committee with the selection process and responsibilities as outlined. He said this would be the Committee that works on strategic planning.

Ald. Johnson said this Committee is intended to be a publicly posted meeting where ideas are shared with the public and formulate ideas.

Ald. McComb said this will help the City staff by keeping track of what is happening at the County, State and possibly federal level that might affect the City.

Ald. Oberstadt said she is concerned that a lot of pressure would be put on that body with who decides what legislation affects the City.

Ald. Johnson said this Committee will not limit the Mayor's ability to speak on certain legislation. She said a legislative agenda would set some general parameters.

Ald. Oberstadt asked who is consulted in the process of creating the agendas and will staff have input regarding their departments.

Ald. Johnson said Department Heads will be consulted if an issue affects their department.

Mayor Wiza said if the City wants to be apprised of the legislative ideas that are going on in the State, eleven alderpersons will be able to do that much better than five people on another committee. He said this committee does nothing but create

another layer of government. The Mayor said he wants all the alderpersons involved in strategic plans. He said there is no need for additional government.

Ald. Dugan said she is concerned that this Committee creates another layer to an already small group. She said it appears to create an elite group who will decide what moves forward and what will not.

Ald. Phillips agrees this just creates another layer of government.

Mayor Wiza said he hopes the alderpersons understand that their duty is to bring topics up to staff, discuss it with them and forward it to the appropriate committee.

Ald. Slowinski said he agrees with what the Mayor has said and he does not support this.

Ald. Jennings said the Mayor's defensiveness and prepared statements show that he is threatened by this and that is the reason why we need this because we currently have a lateral system. She thanked Ald. Johnson for her work on this.

Ald. Kneebone said the City needs something because the Committee Chairperson has a lot of power and the person who appoints the Chairperson has power to control agendas.

Ald. Oberstadt said this Committee would be bound by the same rules for setting agendas.

Mayor Wiza stated the Committee would still have a Chairperson, items would be placed on the agenda and the agenda would be required to be noticed.

City Attorney Beveridge said that is correct.

Ald. Nebel said it is very important to have the ability to talk about issues. She said she feels with this Committee there would be less lengthy meetings.

Ald. Shorr said currently items are placed on Committee agendas for decisions. He said the Executive Committee would allow for the opportunity to discuss issues before being placed on a Committee agenda.

Ald. Dugan agrees it would be great to discuss topics together but having an Executive Committee is not the correct way.

Ald. Slowinski supports the public being involved but an Executive Committee does not make any sense.

Ald. Johnson said this proposal would be less elite because the members of the Committee are elected by the council.

Ald. Phillips said the Committee Chairs are doing a good job and there is not a problem with the current system.

Mayor Wiza reiterated that Committee Chairs are recommended by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. He said discussion on agenda items will still occur so adding this Committee will not shorten meetings.

Ald. Johnson said the difference is that this proposal is a transparent process.

Ald. Oberstadt said she understands what the Alderpersons are looking to do but she is not convinced that creating a new body should be the first step. She said the process for placing items on an agenda needs to be clarified.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. McComb seconded, to approve the Executive Committee Ordinance.

Call for the vote: Ayes, minority; nays, majority; motion failed.

5. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 10:02 p.m.