

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE AGENDA
Monday, February 11, 2019 – 6:13 P.M.
Police Department, 933 Michigan Avenue**

Present: Ald. Nebel, Kneebone, Dugan, Phillips.

Excused: Ald. Oberstadt.

Also

Present: Mayor Wiza; C/T Ladick; City Clerk Piotrowski; Attorney Beveridge; Alderpersons Jennings, Shorr, Johnson, Slowinski, McComb, and Morrow; Directors Schrader, Beduhn, and Ostrowski; Chief Finn; Asst. Police Chief Rottier; Brian Beaulieu; Polly Dalton; Jeff Goessl; Ben Nantell; John Lima; Wendy Dolan; Mary Ann Laszewski; Joe Bachman – Portage County Gazette; Brandi Makuski – Metro Wire.

Discussion and Possible Action on the Following:

1. Appeal of notice/service charge for property maintenance violation:

A. 1202 Illinois Ave.

Ald. Kneebone asked if the appellant was present, as no one responded and no one had questions for the director, she said she would call for a motion.

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

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

B. 2160 Madison St.

Jeff Goessl, 2803 Arrowood Court, Wausau, said college kids were moving out of the duplex next door and put the chair on his side and does not feel he should have to pay for the removal of someone else's garbage. He said a better idea for the City may have been to call the owner of the duplex and let them know about it and have them remove it. Mr. Goessl said there was another incident where they disposed a vacuum cleaner on his property and he filed a police report.

Ald. Nebel said this happens a lot in the area. She asked Mr. Goessl if he received a letter in the mail.

Mr. Goessl replied no, and said he just received the fine. He said he spoke with the tenants and was told they did not get a letter and no one came to the door to notify them this was there.

Ald. Nebel asked Dir. Ostrowski if a letter was sent out to the owner.

Dir. Ostrowski said if an item left in the right of way the item is tagged with a pink slip. He said if it is still there after 24 hours then the item is removed.

Ald. Dugan asked Mr. Goessl if he heard about the pink slip.

Mr. Goessl said he did not. He said one of the renters is his daughter and she would have told him.

Ald. Phillips asked about registered landlords.

Dir. Ostrowski said registration is going into effect later this year. He said it does happen where people will just drop stuff off in other's yards. Dir. Ostrowski said if a Police Report is filed there is no charge to remove the item. He said the City did occur costs for sending City employees out to the area and the abatement cost for Larry's Helping Hand.

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

Call for the vote: ayes, majority; nays, minority; motion carried.

C. 1305 Strongs Ave.

Ald. Kneebone asked if the appellant was present, as no one responded and no one had questions for the director, she said she would call for a motion.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to deny the claim.

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

2. License List:

A. New Operators (Bartenders) Licenses.

Ald. Dugan **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to approve the new operators licenses.

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

B. Provisional Managers License.

No action needed.

3. Temporary Class "B" / Class "B" License (Picnic)

A. St. Joseph's Parish, 1709 Wyatt Ave, Stevens Point for Winterfest on March 1, 2019 at 1709 Wyatt Ave. Licensed operator on premise: Dave Ligman (Beer Only).

B. St. Peters Parish Picnic Committee, 800 Fourth Ave, Stevens Point for St Peter's Parish Picnic on June 8 and 9, 2019 at 800 Fourth Ave and 708 First St. Licensed operator on premise: Gene Kemmeter and Joseph Niesciur (Beer and Wine).

- C. **Central Wisconsin Children’s Museum, 1100 Main St, Stevens Point for Happy Hour at the Museum on March 9, 2019 at 100 Main St. Licensed operator on premise: Sandy Williams (Beer and Wine).**
- D. **Stevens Point Area Visitors and Convention Bureau, 340 Division St N, Stevens Point for Discover Wisconsin Premiere Party on March 5, 2019 at 1039B Ellis St. Licensed operator on premise: Greg Wright (Beer and Wine).**

Ald. Nebel **moved**, Ald. Dugan seconded, to approve the temporary Class “B”/ Class “B” license for picnics for St. Joseph’s Parish, St. Peters Parish, Central Wisconsin Children’s Museum, and Stevens Point Area Visitors and Convention Bureau.

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

4. Change of Agent:

- A. **Mills Fleet Farm Group LLC, 1300 S. Lynndale Drive, Appleton, WI; Susan Konczak, 9670 3rd Ave, Almond, WI, agent at Mills Gas Mart, 5590 Hwy 10 E, Stevens Point, replacing Tim Beer.**
- B. **Schierl Sales Corporation, 2201 Madison St, Stevens Point, WI; Melissa Koch 5717 County Road W, Bancroft, WI agent at The Store #51, 708 Division St, Stevens Point, replacing Melissa Wanta.**
- C. **Schierl Sales Corporation, 2201 Madison St, Stevens Point, WI; Britney Miller, 1313 Michigan Ave, Stevens Point, WI agent at The Store, 201 W Clark St, replacing Melissa Koch.**

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to approve the change of agents for Mills Fleet Farm Group LLC, and for the Schierl Sales Corporation.

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

5. Request to Hold Event/Street Closing.

- A. **Wild Wing Fun Run 6-22-2019.**

Ald. Kneebone asked Asst. Chief Rottier if there were any issues with the event.

Asst. Chief Rottier replied no.

Ben Nantell, 409 Deanna’s Way, gave a flyer to the committee members with the route and where different stations and auxiliary officers will be. He said if it is ok, they can provide their own volunteers.

Ald. Kneebone said Mr. Nantell would need to work with the Police Department as the event gets closer.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to approve the Wild Wing Fun Run.

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

6. Ordinance Amendment - Parking Citations on Posted Private Property 9.05(ak).

Attorney Beveridge said these are State Statues but the City wanted to create an ordinance at the local level to show that the City authorizes the parking enforcement staff to do this.

Ald. Nebel said there needs to be something in place in regards to people parking in a driveway of a vacant house without permission. She said she would like something to be in place that a ticket can be given to someone if they cannot show proof that they can park there.

Attorney Beveridge said if someone is allowing their private property rights to be violated the City cannot step in and exert those rights on someone else's property. He said if the issue becomes a nuisance then they can do something.

Ald. Nebel **moved**, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment of parking citations on posted private property 9.05 (ak) and (al).

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

7. Bee Keeping Licensing.

Ald. Kneebone said she spoke with someone who knew a lot about bee keeping and they came up with something similar to Madison's conditions for keeping bees. She said there were some concerns with the way the Madison's ordinance put permitted hives in zoning classifications they changed it to allow bees to be kept on single family or two family residential lots. Ald. Kneebone explained the license application and the process.

Ald. Nebel asked about the maximum number of hives.

Ald. Kneebone replied four.

Brian Beaulieu, 2132 Elk Street, asked if there will be an annual inspection upon permit issuing.

Ald. Kneebone said the applicant would need to fill out the application each year. She said they may not have to pay the fee each year but they would have to fill out an application and get re-licensed which would involve an inspection. Ald. Kneebone said honeybee licenses must be obtained annually or within 30 days of acquiring the bees. She said neighbors would not need to be informed if it is a re-license.

Ald. Dugan said she would like to see that an inspection needs to occur when they renew their license be added.

Wendy Dolan, 318 Washington Avenue, asked if Ald. Kneebone if bees can be kept for pollinators only or if they can be used for honey as well. She said she is planning of applying for a license and asked if she would need to go through the process again for keeping bee's on her property.

Ald. Kneebone said she would be grandfathered in and as long as her neighbor's know she would not need to contact them. She said in regards to commercial production the state would need to cover that.

Ms. Dolan said at the last committee meeting it was discussed whether or not the bees were going to be used as pollinators or for harvesting honey.

Ald. Kneebone said as long as you are not selling the honey commercially the bee owner can harvest their own honey.

Ms. Dolan asked what the radius is for having to contact neighbors.

Ald. Kneebone said just the immediate, or abutting properties.

Ald. Dugan said 25 feet.

Ald. Phillips said all the adjacent neighbors.

Ald. Kneebone said the hives need to be kept 25 feet from the abutting lot's building or three feet from the property line.

Ald. Nebel said that the City would not have anything to do with notifying the neighbors.

Ald. Kneebone said that is correct. She said she would have the applicant notify the abutting neighbors to where the hive is being kept.

Ald. Phillips asked if the applicants do not need to tell the neighbors.

Ald. Nebel replied they do, and they have to notify the abutting neighbors.

Ald. Phillips asked what if the neighbor says no.

Ald. Kneebone said the neighbors cannot deny someone's use of their property. She said it is only a courtesy to let the neighbors know.

Ald. Phillips asked what happens when your neighbor brings in tens of thousands of bees to an area and there are people who are allergic to bees.

Ald. Kneebone said there are thousands of bees in nature.

Ald. Nebel said it would be up to that homeowner to let anyone visiting their home that the neighboring homes are keeping bees.

Ald. Phillips suggested to put up signage saying there are bees on the property.

Ald. Nebel said that was brought up at the last committee meeting and said in her neighborhood that may be more of an issue.

Ms. Dolan said she is not interested in advertising that she has beehives because she does not want people to trespass on her property.

Ald. Kneebone said they did not put signage as a requirement because it may attract people that you do not want on your property. She said from the research she has done the bees only want to get food for the hive, they do not want to attack anyone and are not aggressive.

Asst. Chief Rottier asked if someone has five hives if they will get a fine or if their license is revoked and how it will be enforced.

Attorney Beveridge said this is regulatory guidelines which would control the enforcement for Chapter 12. He said if you are in violation a citation can be issued and it could be issued where they are forced to get rid of whatever animal it is. Attorney Beveridge said depending on how this ordinance is written based off of the regulations it could start to look like a zoning ordinance in which there is a different process. He provided feedback on the annual license and the keeping of 30 days before getting a license.

Ald. Nebel asked if there was a set amount for pricing, and suggested to keep it low.

Attorney Beveridge said \$10.

Ald. Kneebone said any beekeeping license request needs to be approved through the committee and not the Clerk's office because chickens and bees are very different.

Attorney Beveridge said the number of applicants for bees are going to be less than chickens.

Ald. Johnson said she has received a lot of calls in regards to this and has received positive feedback. She said she is allergic to bees and does not have an issue with this.

Ald. Jennings said her understanding of having the license was to eliminate people coming to the committee to ask. She asked if the Madison ordinance required the applicant to contact their neighbors.

Ald. Kneebone said it did. She said the numbers 1 – 7 are out of the Madison ordinance. She said maybe it should start out going to committee and then the inspection department could do the rest.

Ald. Phillips said it should cost more than \$10. He asked Dir. Ostrowski how much it costs to send someone out to inspect the property and fill out the paper work.

Dir. Ostrowski said it costs \$50 to send someone out to do an inspection.

Ald. Kneebone verified they do not inspect for chickens.

Dir. Ostrowski said she was correct. He said if they are changing out the coop or doing something that requires a building permit then they would.

Ald. Dugan said due to the higher concern she suggested doing an inspection at first.

Ms. Dolan said she is against raising the fee to over \$10 because of the high costs associated with raising bees to begin with. She asked what the cost of license is for a dog or cat.

Clerk Piotrowski replied \$3 for a cat and \$8 for a dog, if a dog is unsprayed or unneutered it is \$45.

Ms. Dolan asked if there is a reason why bees would need to be charged at a higher price than cats or dogs.

Ald. Kneebone said she thought it would be fair to do the same price as chickens.

Ald. Nebel said \$10 is appropriate and said an inspection does not have to be done unless there is a complaint.

Ald. Kneebone said the bee owner would then be subject to the fee for the inspection.

Clerk Piotrowski asked if the license is \$10 annually or just once.

Ald. Kneebone said it would be just once like the chickens.

Ald. Phillips said they could charge \$10 per hive.

Ald. Kneebone said they can have up to four hives for \$10.

Ald. Phillips asked what if they are selling the honey.

Ald. Kneebone said that brings in State Laws.

Ald. Phillips said there is not a lot size specification for keeping bees.

Ald. Kneebone said if they can meet the requirements to have a hive then they can keep one.

Ald. Phillips said how this is written they can put the hive on anyone's property.

Ald. Kneebone said they have to have the owner's permission first.

Ald. Nebel said it makes sense to have rental properties have the landlord's approval.

Ald. Phillips said the bee hive should be kept on the owner's property just in case there is an issue with the hive then they are there to take care of it.

Ald. Kneebone said a lot of the beekeepers that live in the City have hives outside the City and do not live on the property.

Ald. Phillips asked what if someone was throwing a football and it hit the neighbor's hive and knocked it over.

Ald. Kneebone said the renters would be there to take care of it.

Ald. Phillips asked if the committee does not think the owners should be living on the same property as the bee hives.

Ald. Kneebone said she does not think that should be a requirement. She said if you are renting and have the owner's permission to keep bees then you should be able to.

John Lima, 508 Meadow Street, said if you sell your own honey you do not need a permit. He said if you are going to sell someone else's honey then you need a permit. Mr. Lima said he spent six hours looking up various ordinances and said Stevens Point is the only city of comparable size that does not allow you to keep bees. He said LaCrosse is the cheapest with \$5 for five years. Mr. Lima said Milwaukee is more expensive and requires you to do a drawing. He said a lot of the fees are \$10 for each year.

Ald. Dugan asked about inspectors.

Mr. Lima said the state has two inspections. He said it usually takes longer to become allergic to honey bees rather than wasps.

Ald. Nebel asked Mr. Lima if it would be important to have their hive inspected once.

Mr. Lima said it is around \$500 to get hive equipment and \$150 for the bees.

Ald. Nebel said so those who are going to do this as a hobby are going to do it correctly.

Ald. Dugan asked if there is going to be an inspector they should really know bees.

Mr. Lima said the inspectors just check for diseases.

Ald. Nebel asked if they inspect the hive only because you asked.

Mr. Lima said that is correct.

Ald. Kneebone wondered if they even need to do a permit at all.

Ald. McComb said they are getting to regulatory with the bees. She said they do not need to do inspections because they do not do them for chickens or cats/dogs. She

said beekeeping is complicated and does not think there would be any fly by night beekeepers.

Ald. Kneebone said she is going to try and see if she can come up with something for Council next week. She said she wants to make it as easy as possible for those who want to do this.

8. Operator's/Bartender's License Changes – 2017 Wisconsin Act 278- Discussion.

Clerk Piotrowski said this is in regards to the license that was issued last month.

Attorney Beveridge said there was an amendment to state laws for when and how criminal records or pending charges so you cannot discriminate against someone and refuse someone for a license. He said they would have to have a criminal charge or pending charge for something serious that directly relates to the liquor items or related to cab driving. Attorney Beveridge said the City is making sure their practices are in line with the changes of the law.

Ald. Phillips said the committee would not be concerned with this because the Committee would only deny the license if it was recommended to do so by the Police Department.

Attorney Beveridge said that they are giving the Committee a heads up because the recommendation might be a little different from in the past.

9. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 7:17 P.M.