

PUBLIC HEARING

May 9, 2016

The May 9, 2016 Public Hearing was called to order at 7:45 p.m. in Council Chambers by Don Spiegel, President. City Council members present were Roxie Karg, Rick Roberts, Tom Shumaker, Don Spiegel, Bill Thornton, and Bob Blocksom. Scot Swinehart was absent.

Others present included: Scott Washburn, Mayor; Mark Ellis, Law Director; Tom Young; Ken Gelbaugh; Francis Hensel; Roger Snyder; Mark Droll; Misty Droll; Alissa Paoella, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The purpose of this meeting was to allow public comments on the proposed Yard Maintenance legislation.

Mr. Spiegel outlined the ground rules for those in attendance to address City Council with their input and concerns regarding the proposed legislation and noting that this is not a debate.

Mr. Tom Young addressed City Council indicating that he would like to see regulations included that would prohibit individuals from mowing their grass clippings into the streets. Mr. Spiegel noted that issue is being addressed in different legislation.

Mr. Ken Gelbaugh expressed concerns about the possibility of drainage and flooding issues in neighborhoods because of the creation of hard surfaces due to the proposed regulation that motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and trailers must be parked on a hard surface. Mr. Gelbaugh inquired as to if property owners are going to be required to obtain permits for the creation of hard surfaces on their properties.

Mr. Francis Hensel presented the following concerns and suggestions:

- Regulations on tall bushes that obstruct the view of motorists;
- The creation of time limits on project construction;
- Limits on the number of garage sales that can be held on a property;
- A requirement to seed bare ground from the site where a building has been removed;
- Allow bicycles to be located on a resident's front porch. Mr. Hensel indicated that he read in the newspaper that bicycles were not going to be permitted on a front porch under this legislation. Ms. Karg indicated that there are no regulations on bicycles being located on a resident's front porch in this legislation;
- A definition of decorations;
- A limit on the number of water barrels permitted on a residential property;
- Regulations addressing potting soil on a resident's property.

Mr. Roger Snyder inquired about the definition and removal of brush piles. The proposed legislation provides that no owner shall permit or allow a brush pile to exist on residential real estate in the City that does not comply with the following: a. limbs and branches shall not exceed 1" in diameter; b. shall not include root balls, stumps, grass clippings, pine needles, leaves, lumber or anything in plastic or in any containers; and c. shall not remain on the property for more than ten (10) days.

Mr. Mark Droll expressed concerns with the proposed fines with many people struggling to pay their mortgage or rent; and limitations on firewood and woodpiles with some people depending on wood to help heat their homes.

Mrs. Misty Droll suggested a definition of junk be provided.

There being no further business, the President declare the hearing adjourned.

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Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

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Don Spiegel, President