

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Ordinance Committee was held on Thursday, July 12, 2018, in the Council Chambers, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto
Councilman Christopher G. Paplauskas, Chair
Council President Michael J Farina

Absent: Council Vice-President Michael W. Favicchio
Councilman Kenneth J. Hopkins, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Councilman Steven A. Stycos
Councilman John E. Lanni, Jr.
Councilman Paul J. McAuley
Carlos Lopez, Chief of Staff
John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Heather Finger, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair indicated that Ordinance 6-18-01 will be continued to next month's meeting to give the attorneys time to review easements and Ordinance 6-18-06 will also be continued to next month's meeting due to an advertising error in the Providence Journal.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

Raymond Tomasso, 150 Lyndon Rd., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03. He also addressed the problems of noise and pollution with Yardworks.

Robert Wilson, 114 Mayflower Dr., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03 and stated that this would increase the accountability of the Administration in relation to the Building Inspections. He also stated that he and his neighbors have been having problems with Yardworks and have made multiple complaints to no avail. This is why we need to have accountability and transparency. This Ordinance is a good first step to remedy the problems there.

Tom Blessington, 144 Lyndon Rd., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03 and stated that Yardworks is directly behind his back fence. He has to smell diesel fuels from all their trucks. This is the reason he supports this Ordinance.

John Donegan, 16 Packard St., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03 and stated that this Ordinance will help make more transparent and accessible City Hall.

Jennifer Miller, 1900 Broad St., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03 and stated that the City has been out to the home behind her at 14 Marion Ave. many times. This Ordinance will help to create a little transparency and would avoid people calling the City Council and the people would look up the items online instead.

Frank DiZoglio, 104 Warman Ave., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03 and stated that he has made verbal complaints and after one year of making complaints, he filed a written complaint and emailed, faxed, mailed and hand delivered it to the City. It is now another year gone by and the City has not responded to it, so it cannot be appealed if there is no written decision.

Sheila Resseger, 50 Malvern Ave., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03.

Lisa Gibb, 45 Rhodes Ave., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03.

Pauline Derosa, 97 Cypress Dr., appeared to speak in favor of proposed Ordinance 6-18-03.

6-18-01 Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Works to execute a grant of easement for the Narragansett Electric Company. Sponsored by Council President Farina.

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to continue this Ordinance to next month's meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

6-18-03 Ordinance In Amendment of Title 8.08 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled “Building Code” (Housing Standards On Line Monitoring of Complaints) Councilman Stycos.

On motion by Councilman Archetto, seconded by Council President Farina, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Council President Farina stated that this will require significant web development and there is a cost and there is no fiscal note as to what the exact cost would be. He would like to see what the cost would be before this is passed.

Councilman Archetto requested that the Council President request Stan Pikul, Building Official, to appear at the next meeting or the full City Council to ask him why constituents are waiting so long for a response. We need to investigate the issue of alleged spraying being done by Yardworks and also if this business has contributed to any members of the Council or the Mayor’s campaigns.

Councilman Lanni stated that if we are going to wait for an estimate of the cost before this is passed, it could be another year before something is done. An Inspector should be monitoring Yardworks daily to see what they are doing on the property before we have a lawsuit because the City did not do its diligence. We need to do our due diligence as elected officials to do what we have to do to correct this problem.

Council President Farina stated that he agrees with the intent of this bill, but it would be hasty to pass this tonight without a fiscal note. The sponsor of this Ordinance has chastised the Administration many times on Ordinances that do not have a fiscal note.

Councilman Stycos addressed the need of the fiscal note and stated that this Ordinance could be sent out of Committee and ask for a fiscal note to be supplied within the next week.

Councilman McAuley agreed with continuing this Ordinance for one month and find out what the cost would be to do this. He is in full support of this. He asked to be added as co-sponsor.

Councilman Archetto asked to be added as co-sponsor. He also asked that this Ordinance be forward to the full City Council and have fiscal note provided for the next Council meeting and if at that time the fiscal note is not available, then we could continue it at that time.

Councilman Lanni asked to be added as co-sponsor and stated that he agreed with Councilman Archetto to pass this Ordinance and if the fiscal note is not available at the Council meeting, then it can be continued at that time.

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to continue this Ordinance for one month pending a fiscal note and an analysis from the IT Department, Director Strom and Director Pikul.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Paplauskas asked to be added as co-sponsor and stated that he would like to know all the information before passing this Ordinance.

Roll call was taken on motion to continue this Ordinance and motion passed unanimously.

6-18-06 Public Hearing being continued to August 16, 2018

6-18-06 Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 17 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled “Zoning” (950 Phenix Avenue - Signage) Petition filed by BCPStor Development LLC.

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to continue this Ordinance. Motion passed on a vote of 2-0. The following being recorded as voting “aye”: Councilman Paplauskas and Council President Farina -2. Councilman Archetto recused.

6-18-08 Ordinance In Amendment of Title 15.12 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, Entitled “Building Code” “Housing Standards” (Short Term Rentals). Sponsored by Councilman Archetto

On motion by Councilman Archetto, seconded by Council President Farina, it was voted to continue this Ordinance based on recommendation of the Solicitor of the for two reasons he indicated: constituent who asked to have this Ordinance introduced did not show up this evening and also he just received a Statute from the General Assembly and would like to review it. Motion to continue passed unanimously.

Resolution to Study the Feasibility of the Cullion Property as a Dog Park. Sponsored by Councilman Stycos.

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Lanni stated that a dog park at this location would be ideal. He indicated that Councilman Stycos has contacted DEM and they are willing to work with the City on this. This would be an asset to the City.

Council President Farina stated that he would like to see an official DEM opinion on their letterhead as to what we can and cannot do at that site.

Councilman McAuley stated that he toured the site when he was first elected with Councilman Hopkins and it is in disrepair and used as a hang out. He has spoken to the area residents and they are excited and are in favor of this. He asked to be added as co-sponsor.

Councilman Lanni asked to be added as co-sponsor.

Councilman Stycos asked that the month of “July” in the Resolution be changed to “August”.

On motion by Council President Farina, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to amend “July” to “August”. Motion passed unanimously.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of this Resolution as amended and motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosalba Zanni". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees