



11333 N. Cedarburg Road
Mequon, WI 53092
Phone: 262-236-2941
Fax: 262-242-9655

www.ci.mequon.wi.us

Office of the City Administrator

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

5:30 PM

Lower Conference Room

Minutes

1) Call to Order, Roll Call

Committee Chair Gierl reminded those in attendance to follow the rules, raise your hand when wanting to speak, and to limit your comments to 5 minutes to ensure a smooth and efficient meeting.

Present:

Chair Mark Gierl
Alderman Glenn Bushee
Alderman Kathleen Schneider

Also Present: Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann, City Attorney Sajdak, Fire Chief Bialk, Deputy Fire Chief Zellmann, Battalion Chief Boettcher, Assistant Community Development Director Zader, Inspections Supervisor Hadley, Alderman Mayr, Executive Assistant Enea, and Resident Schroeder.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. December Meeting Minutes

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Alderman Schneider

SECONDED BY: Alderman Bushee

AYES: Gierl, Bushee, Schneider

3) Ordinances

Action requested: review and recommend approval

a. Pool Fence

City Attorney Sajdak provided the Committee with a new version due to some language changes. He pointed out where the changes had been made. Committee Chair Gierl then shared his research on the topic of pool covers and stated how the state statute existed before this new technology and that forward thinking communities have been updating their codes accordingly. He named numerous positives for pool covers and believed enforcement of the new ordinance could continue to be complaint-driven as pool gates that do not close are. He does not believe in maintaining the status quo and wants to make things better for residents.

Alderwoman Schneider stated that several residents are worried about fencing requirements going away because of the protection they offer to children. She inquired about the man power needed for enforcement. Pools are inspected when they are put in, but will the city need to keep a record of every pool in Mequon? Assistant Community Development Director Zader stated that depending on when complaints are received, the enforcement officer might not get there until the next day. Also, some insurance companies will not write a policy for a pool without a fence. A discussion regarding enforceable language then ensued and the topics discussed were how far away a person supervising needed to be, what age the person supervising should be, and when the pool cover needed to be closed if not in use. Committee Chair Gierl requested City Attorney Sajdak to work on the language for February's meeting.

b. Review of City of Mequon Burning Ordinance

Fire Chief Bialk began the conversation regarding the Mequon Burning Ordinance by stating that it was created a long time ago to deal with open burning. He then turned over the conversation to Battalion Chief Boettcher who had researched other area ordinances on the topic. The Fire Department presented an updated ordinance with grills being allowed at 10 feet from a structure and patio hearths/outdoor fireplaces to be allowed at 20 feet from a structure. The Committee decided to change the Fire Department's camp fire suggestion of 3 feet to 4 feet since fire pits that can be purchased have a standard size of 4 feet.

RESULT: Approved as Amended [Unanimous]

MOVED BY: Alderman Schneider

SECONDED BY: Alderman Bushee

AYES: Gierl, Bushee, Schneider

4) Discussion Items

a. 6945 : Arch Board Membership

The Architectural Board currently has 23 members. It was recommended by Mayor Wirth and Community Director Tollefson to decrease it to 7 members and 2 alternates. No more than 2 members can be from the same aldermanic district. The Committee voted on this change and will come back for further discussion on other changes.

RESULT: Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]

MOVED BY: Alderman Schneider

SECONDED BY: Alderman Gierl

AYES: Gierl, Bushee, Schneider

5) Information Items

a. Work Calendar

Next month, pool fencing will be further discussed.

6) Next Meeting Date and Time

February 8, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.

7) Adjourn

Alderman moved to adjourn at 6:43 P.M. and Committee Chair Gierl seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Enea
Executive Assistant