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Office of the City Administrator

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

5:45 PM

Lower Conference Room

Minutes

1) Call to Order, Roll Call

Present:

Chair Dale Mayr
Alderman Mark Gierl
Alderman Kathleen Schneider

Also Present: Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann, City Attorney Sajdak, Public Works Director Lundeen, and Executive Assistant Enea

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. August Meeting Minutes

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

MOVED BY: Alderman Schneider

SECONDED BY: Alderman Gierl

AYES: Mayr, Gierl, Schneider

3) Discussion Items

a. Electronic Participation for Common Council, Planning Commission and Citizen Committee Meetings

Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann asked the Committee for guidance to develop an ordinance regarding electronic meetings. The Committee discussed in length current requirements for Council & Planning Commission meetings versus Volunteer Committees. They also discussed removing limitations (like allowing the Chair to deem when appropriate in short notice instances such as weather) and adding others (how many times a person can participate electronically). Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann suggested for the policy to be easy for the public to understand. The Committee suggested for the Council to be changed from 2 to 3 times that a member can participate electronically, change it from 3 to 4 times for volunteer committee participants, and to allow staff and consultants to attend virtually as needed. Then it was discussed what would be needed from a technology and cost standpoint to make hybrid meetings a possibility for all City Hall meeting rooms. The audio

system in the Council Chambers would need to be upgraded to digital and the projector for presentations would need to be upgraded as well. The South Conference Room and Lower Level Conference Room both currently have no technology.

The Committee then discussed quasi-judicial boards. The Committee recommended that people testifying should be in-person. Recruitment could be done virtually, but not discipline. For the Tree and Landmarks Boards, decisions of things of monetary value should be in-person. Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann will draft language for consideration for the next meeting.

b. Community Composting

Public Works Director Lundeen presented the composting data she had researched since the last meeting. She spoke with the DNR and they said a community collection site was acceptable if it was a shared container and no composting was taking place on-site. Two of three composting companies responded to her inquiry. Doing it at a neighborhood level was thought to be less risky in terms of contamination. Curby's Compost offered to come to a future meeting or a tour could be given of their facility in Port Washington. DPW Director Lundeen also reached out to other municipalities to see what they offered. Shorewood provides a subsidy to residents to incentivize them to participate in their Organics Collection Program in which they partner with Compost Crusaders. The Committee agreed to wait until after the Appropriations Meeting and maybe a composting bin can be added at the Brush Site with the other additions. The Committee also discussed the possibility of accepting pumpkins at the Brush Site.

4) Work Calendar

a. Work Calendar

Electronic meetings, the Sign Code, and the Nuisance Ordinance were tentatively slated for the next meeting.

5) Adjourn

Alderwoman Schneider moved to adjourn at 6:35 P.M. and Alderman Gierl seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Enea