

CITY OF ELKHORN
Legislative and Regulatory Committee
Lower Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin
January 25, 2007

Chairman Julie Taylor called the Legislative and Regulatory Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Aldermen Julie Taylor, Gary Payson, Ron Dunwiddie

Also present: City Clerk Nancy Jacobson, Police Chief Joel Christensen, Richard Loker of Loker Turf Management

ORDINANCE TO BAN THE SALE AND USE OF LAWN FERTILIZER CONTAINING PHOSPHOROUS

Committee discussed a request by Don Holst of the Delavan Lake Improvement Associations requesting the City create an ordinance banning the sale and use of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorous. Present at the meeting was Richard Loker, owner of Loker Turf Management, Elkhorn. He presented a study on run off from fertilized lawns done in the mid 1990s. He said a study being done today is focusing on phosphorous run off. He told the Committee that phosphorous run off is greater where native plants are located. Alderman Payson asked if ice melt causes phosphorous. There was no answer to his question. Loker said that leaves and grass clippings in the street can cause phosphorous. Alderman Taylor said phosphorous free fertilizer is not available in stores. She also asked how the ordinance could be policed.

Loker asked if an ordinance is created could it allow one application in the fall.

Alderman Dunwiddie said that he sees no reason to act now. He would like to see the UW-Whitewater study.

No action was taken.

AMEND ORDINANCE 620 TO INCREASE PENALTY OF SECTION 3.11(3)(D) ENTITLED DELINQUENT UTILITY ACCOUNTS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE

City Clerk Jacobson said that the present code does not address the penalty. Jacobson will speak to the Utility Director and Public Works Director to incorporate the penalty into the Utility Chapter of the Code Book. It will be brought back at the February meeting.

VAGRANCY/LOITERING

After review of the present code on loitering, Committee determined, after confirmation by the Police Chief, that it encompassed the necessary language for enforcement.

AFTER FIRE CLEAN-UP/QUICK RESPONSE

Committee asked that an ordinance be created that sets a certain amount of days for clean-up after investigation is completed. Insurance companies could apply for an extension. Police Chief Christensen said often the hang-up is insurance companies rather than law enforcement or fire personnel. Committee asked that the Police Chief meet with the Fire Chief and Building Inspector concerning the ordinance. Committee asked that a letter be sent to insurance agencies for input. The Fire Chief should be invited to the next meeting of the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Payson/Dunwiddie) to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried by the majority present.

Nancy B. Jacobson
City Clerk