

CITY OF ELKHORN
Municipal Services and Utilities Committee
Lower Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

May 12, 2008

Chairman Gary Payson Sr. called the Municipal Services and Utilities Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Aldermen Gary Payson Sr., Ronald Dunwiddie

Absent: Charles Van Dyke

Also present: City Administrator Sam Tapson, City Clerk Nancy Jacobson, Public Works Director Terry Weter

YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

Motion (Payson/Dunwiddie) to recommend to Council to authorize the City Administrator to prepare a resolution and policy concerning the non-compliance of leaf/yard waste pickup. Motion carried by the majority present.

In discussion, Alderman Payson said that his constituents have complained about the gap between the two weeks of leaf pick-up in April and the opening of the yard waste drop-off. It has also been noted that leaves and yard waste has been deposited at curbside after pickup throughout the City. Aldermen Dunwiddie and Payson agreed that there should be enforcement concerning those that leave yard waste at the curb when pick-up is not scheduled. City Administrator Tapson suggested extending the curbside pickup of leaves to include the full month of April and add "Saturday only" in April at the Yard Waste Drop-Off site. Enforcement would be a three-step process. The first step would be at the conclusion of the 4-week curbside collection residents placing materials curbside for pickup will be given a fixed period to voluntarily remove the material. If not removed the second step would involve the City crew picking up the materials and the resident would be assessed \$30. Committee members suggested increasing the amount to at least \$50. The third step would be to place the special collection fees that are not paid by the resident on the property owner's tax bill as a "special charge".

Committee was in agreement that the City must stick to compliance. Payson said that the policy must be enforced and consistent. Dunwiddie expressed concerns over grass clippings left in the gutters. Public Works Director Weter said that the City does not provide a service for grass clippings; therefore a fine cannot be imposed.

It was decided that the issue of non-compliance be brought before Council on May 19 for action by Council. The City Administrator will follow up with a resolution and policy and bring it back to Council for adoption. Tapson will review the code concerning waste disposal to determine if an ordinance is in place concerning leaf/yard waste non-compliance. The Department of Public Works and Community Service Officers will be responsible for providing notice of violation and use of special collection fees. Any changes in compliance will be widely publicized in the newspaper and on the website.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Dunwiddie/Payson) to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried by the majority present.

Nancy B. Jacobson
City Clerk