

CITY OF WEYAUWEGA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND RELIEF (ORDINANCE) COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEEDINGS
APRIL 4, 2022

The Public Health and Relief (Ordinance) Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Shani Appleby at the Weyauwega Municipal Building Council Chambers at 4:30 pm. Roll call was taken. Members Present: Shani Appleby, Chris Gunderson and Kaley DuCoeur. Also Present: Mayor Jack Spierings, City Administrator Jeremy Schroeder, Clerk Rebecca Loehrke, Chief Brandon Leschke and Bruce Brunner.

Motion Appleby, second Gunderson, to approve the minutes from May 4, 2021. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Citizen Appearances: None

Discussion and possible action on Vulgar, Profane Signs/Flags: Appleby noted that a complaint came in from a resident in regards to his neighbor having a flag with profanity hanging from his porch. Administrator Schroeder reached out to Attorney Kalny to get his legal opinion if the City could do anything about it. Kalny's legal opinion was included in the committee packet. He believes the City could not successfully cause the removal of the sign due to Freedom of Speech. A municipality cannot regulate content of signs. Chief Leschke also noted that he asked other Police Chiefs in the area and there is not much enforcement action against content in signs. It is freedom of speech. Appleby noted that she had driven past the house yesterday and the flag was removed. Kalny does recommend updating the sign ordinance to include the regulation that content must be directly related to a compelling municipal interest. Item will be added to next ordinance committee to discuss further and to include in the discussion of the change in sign ordinance already being discussed at Plan Commission. DuCoeur would like Schroeder to check with Attorney Kalny on communities that have updated their sign ordinance.

Discussion and possible action on General Ordinance Enforcement: Appleby had spoken with Chief Leschke and Administrator Schroeder prior to the committee meeting to discuss ordinance enforcement. Chief Leschke noted that going forward the Police Department will be creating a resource sheet to hand out to residents on information on where they can take items to clean up their home and yards. Most focus is done in the spring and fall months. Ordinance violation letters that go out this spring will have photos showing what needs to be cleaned up along with a copy of the specific ordinance and the resource sheet. The City electronic recycling event held in the past will be done every two years so looking at 2023 for the next event. The Police Department would also like to focus on an ordinance of the month to share on social media.

Administrator's Report: Nothing further to report.

Set next meeting date and time: The next committee meeting will be scheduled at the Council Re-Organizational Meeting held April 19, 2022.

Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law: None

Motion Appleby, second DuCoeur, to adjourn at 5:01 pm. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Recommendations to the Council: None

Rebecca Loehrke – City Clerk City Clerk