

Public Safety and Transportation Committee Meeting, 10/7/13, 6:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers

Present: Connie Boyer, Jessica Ledger-Kalen, Michael Halley, Shelia Clements, Jessica Clements, Justin Clements, Scott Clements, Jeff Richard, Kandy Richard, Chris Estle, Julie Harvey, Darrel Bisgard

Points of discussion

Scott Clements requested a handicap parking space in front of his house at the June 3rd Public Safety Meeting. His daughter Jessica's care providers need to have a place to drop her off then park while they are providing services. City Attorney John Morrissey recommended placing a parking space on the street, but advised that this parking space could be used by anyone that had a handicap placard. Halley made a motion to recommend that the Council grant one handicap parking space on the street in a central location. Boyer Seconded. Motion passed.

Chris Estle gave an update on Public Health initiatives and brought the committee up to speed on the Community Transformation Grant. Estle informed the committee that there were funds that needed to be used on community projects before they had to be given back to the state. Ledger-Kalen will meet with Estle to get more details and bring information back to the committee. No action needed at this time.

A resident had expressed concern about cars that were towed during the RAGBRAI event and wanted the city to do a more thorough job notifying residents. Harvey informed the committee that they had contacted residents in the immediate downtown area and information had been given to the newspaper and radio regarding the no parking ordinance for the day of the event. The committee recommends that event organizers post signage and inform the public through media outlets. The committee also felt that it is the Citizen's responsibility to stay informed. No action taken at this time.

A citizen had posted a complaint about traffic light visibility at the corner of Burlington and Main on Facebook. This issue had been taken care of. No action needed.

Bisgard presented a proposal from the University to place pedestrian yield signs in both crosswalks on HWY 1 by campus. These signs are similar to what the University of Iowa has around their campus to warn motorists of pedestrians. These signs are bolted to the pavement and would only be in place April 1st through October 1st and would have to be removed for winter weather and snowplows. The University would pay for the signs, but the City would be required to maintain the signs. The committee opted not to pursue this option at this time due to maintenance and time factor required by the City in addition to giving pedestrians a false sense of security. No action needed.

Residents have contacted committee members in support of a hunt for the growing deer population within the City limits. Harvey proposed a trial hunt in the area of O.B. Nelson park. The hunt would take place in January would be monitored by Colin Smith (Fairfield PD). A proficiency test would be required and all hunters would be required to report their take to the Fairfield Fire Department. The Fire Department was selected because it is open 24 hours. All hunters will be required to number their arrows. French-Reneker will survey the proposed trial hunting area to get a description. Motion made by Halley to recommend to the Council that we facilitate a trial hunt for January. Boyer Seconded, motion passed.

Harvey brought to the committees attention that the owner of the Christian Church property on HWY 1 South wanted the City to put up No Semi Turn Around signs. They have recently overlaid their asphalt parking lot and don't want Semi's parking or turning around. The committee decided that if the Church would like to purchase No Outlet signs the City will put them up and maintain them. No action needed at this time.

Harvey reported that the PD will be working on updating policies over the next year and will be sending them to the committee to review so that we can stay abreast of the how's and why's of police department business. Harvey also informed the committee that starting in 2015 the PD will start a Citizen's Academy. More details to follow. No action is required at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Recommendations/Actions

- Recommendation to Council to approve Handicap parking space on Southview Circle.
- Recommendation to Council to approve trial deer hunt for January.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Ledger-Kalen.