

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

Hall of Fame Room, City Hall

**Present:** Chair, Michael Engelberger, Alderpersons, Regina Hirsch, Scott Truehl, Tim Swadley, and Mayor Donna Olson

**Guests:** Police Chief Greg Leck, Fire Chief Scott Wegner, Planning Director Rodney Scheel, Chris Overson

**Call to Order:** Chair Engelberger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Communications:** None

### **Approval of the November 19, 2015 Public Safety Minutes:**

Motion by Truehl, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2015 Public Safety Meetings, second by Swadley. Motion carried 5-0

### **Discussion of outdoor furnace use at 556 E Main Street**

Planning Director Scheel explained that in May 2015 the Common Council approved an ordinance disallowing the use of outdoor furnaces in the City limits. He further explained that Mr. Overson, at 556 E Main St, was sent two letters describing the ordinance's restrictions on his existing outdoor furnace and that it would need to be removed. Mr. Overson explained that he had purchased approximately \$3,000 worth of wood to burn in the stove and would like to be able to use it up before removing the stove. He noted that his stove met all of the exception requirements, including the 20 foot stack height, although there was a question on whether the stack height requirement had been met prior to the ordinance being passed.

Motion by Truehl, to recommend that council allow the outdoor furnace at 556 E. Main Street to be operated using clean wood until May 1, 2016 since there is a discrepancy whether the furnace's chimney met the 20 foot minimum requirement at the time the ordinance was adopted. The outdoor furnace will not be allowed to be operated after May 1, 2016, second by Hirsch. Motion carried 3-2, with Engelberger and Mayor Olson voting noe.

### **Discussion regarding sidewalk ramp snow removal**

Engelberger explained that this request came from a citizen concerned that during a snow fall that the sidewalk ramps aren't being cleaned properly. Planning Director Scheel stated that there is currently an ordinance in place stating that property owners or business owners are responsible for cleaning the sidewalk including the sidewalk ramps. Committee discussion continued regarding snow removal in the downtown area. The Public Safety committee felt no need to change the current ordinance relating to snow removal, but would like to have a joint meeting with the Public Works Committee in January 2016 to discuss the procedures with the Stoughton Chamber and the downtown business owners. No action was taken.

### **Future agenda items:**

- Neighborhood Watch Procedures
- Best Practices for Temporary Liquor Licenses
- Parking Issues on Main Street
- EMS Quarterly Financial Update

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Truehl, to adjourn the meeting of the Public Safety Committee, second by Hirsch. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting of the Public Safety Committee adjourned at 6:55 p.m.