



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft PUBLIC SAFETY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

5:00 PM

South Police District - Community Room
525 Hughes Place

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 8 -

Paul E. Skidmore; Maurice S. Cheeks; Merrilee Pickett; Ernest E. Horinek;
Jane Earl; Ryan M. Jennissen; John Strasser and Chan M. Stroman

Excused: 1 -

Wayne S. Strong

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ryan Jennissen made a motion to approve the March 12, 2013 meeting minutes. Alder Cheeks seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There was no disclosures or recusals

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alder Skidmore made a motion to table the introduction of two new committee members. Alder Cheeks seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to table the item.

Alder Skidmore made a motion to un-table the introduction of new committee members. Alder Cheeks seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to un-table the item.

There was an introduction of the two new committee members to the Public Safety Review Committee. Alder John Strasser and Citizen Member Jane Earl.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [25496](#) SUBSTITUTE Amending Section 27.04(2)(k)4. of the Madison General Ordinances to require monthly notification only if an e-mail address has been provided, it removes the requirement that the Police and Fire Department notify landlords of calls.

Attachments: [Version 1](#)

Alder Skidmore made a motion to approve for discussion purposes. Ryan Jennissen seconded the motion. Captain Lengfeld from the Madison Police Department and Fire Marshal, Ed Ruckriegel from the Madison Fire Department both shared that information given to the landlord and the ability to know where problems are to address it would be beneficial to both the landlord and their departments however they mentioned that the problem is in achieving specifications required by the ordinance that would be nearly impossible. It was mentioned that each and every report in which there are thousands of would require a manual review before being sent to the landlord, which would be very time consuming. It was also mentioned that there are special systems that would need to be used and legal requirements with HIPPA and patient information that would be disclosed with open record rules that could create problems.

The committee voted unanimously to approve item number 25496.

Excused: 1 -

Wayne S. Strong

2. [29697](#)

Creating Section 27.10 of the Madison General Ordinances to require persons asserting a collateral or other legal or equitable interest in a residential property to register such property with the City if the property is abandoned and to require said persons to inspect, maintain and secure such properties to promote public health, safety and welfare of the immediate neighborhood and the community.

Alder Weier shared that the ordinance was proposed for the deterioration of property and to gather information from building inspection on accurate or complete records of homes on the condition, abandonment, or are being foreclosed on mentioning that about one hundred cities around the country gather information on the condition of housing. City Attorney Zilavy shared that there has become an increasing issue with properties becoming nuisances after the bank files a foreclosure action. She said the home owner will at most times walk away from the property leaving it vacant and abandoned. She mentioned that there is no mechanism right now for banks to take responsibility for the property leaving the City powerless to do anything regarding the property. She said this ordinance will be a great tool to force the lenders to pay attention to the properties to address the nuisance property to take control. She said that once a foreclosure has been filed that the bank would have to register with the City and if there would be money penalties it would go through municipal court. Alder Skidmore made a motion for discussion. Alder Cheeks seconded the motion. Member Horinek inquired if the ordinance would require the responsible party to provide contact information. Attorney Zilavy said that it would be essential. Alder Weier said that Building Inspection would maintain records to make sure maintenance was up to date and that pictures would be taken during specified times each month. This ordinance has been modeled from the City of Milwaukee which has had success.

The committee voted unanimously in favor of approving item number 29697.

Excused: 1 -

Wayne S. Strong

REPORTS

3. [30124](#) Report from the Madison Police Department - Captain Lengfeld

Captain Lengfeld reported that the Police Department was extremely pleased with the outcome of the "Spring Fling" or the old Mifflin Street Party as it went better than expected this year. He then mentioned that the next preparation will be for the Elver Park and Rhythm and Booms fireworks celebration. He shared next year Madison Festivals has met on hosting one Fireworks event by Lake Monona. He then shared that the staffing model has changed for the department with the Academy beginning in October verses May. He said it is slated to have 28 new officers and that the number could climb to about 32 with the recruits hitting the street in July. He shared that there is a staffing plan for the later part of this year in case the numbers go down on the amount of officers needed for patrol. He mentioned that next year during the first six months there will be modifications to staffing. He said staffing has been a struggle but in the long term it will be very good because they will be able to over hire to be at authorized strength. He then said patrol and detectives have been very busy with investigations and prepping for upcoming trials. Last, he shared the department has Facebook, Twitter, and the Chief's blog in which the department is going to continue to expand.

4. [30125](#) Report from the Madison Fire Department - Asst. Chief Popovich

Ed Ruckriegel from the Madison Fire Department reported on fire prevention sharing that a division of the department works with builders and developers to make sure that buildings are up to code before the building becomes occupied. If it is a commercial or an apartment building there are two inspections each year having about a total of 33,000 inspections each year. He shared a good number of the inspections are completed by firefighters and that inspections are mandated by law. Another component is community education to change behaviors such as through the smoke alarm ordinance. Next, he shared there is a safety town program that shares safety information with the police department, safe communities coalition and about twenty-five other agencies to share safety information. He mentioned that on June 8, 2013 the annual Safety Saturday event will be held where police, fire, and thirty-five other partners will be on the Capitol to teach safety.

DISCUSSION ITEM

5. [30142](#) Emergency contacts for Fire and Police (Madison City Ordinance 27.04(2)(k))

Member Horinek requested to have further discussion on Emergency contacts for Fire and Police. He said that he would like to inquire further on ordinance 27.04(2)(k) on how the police or fire would fine the owner when there is an inspection of the complex or where the notice would be sent. Captain Lengfeld shared that if the incident were to be during the evening that the information is generally found on the Accessor's website to find the owner who pays the property taxes making contact with them. Fire Marshal Ruckriegel shared that the 911 Center has information for emergency contacts. He also shared that fines are given if the information is not posted. Alder Skidmore mentioned that there is a landlord tenant subcommittee that he attends and shared that he would bring up the discussion on this agenda item and report back to Mr. Horinek.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Stroman shared that there is an opening on the Sensitive Crimes committee as a representative position open to any citizen member of the PSRC. If interested in the position she mentioned that committee members could contact her.

Member Jennissen mentioned that he would be resigning today as a committee member. He said that he has been offered a position as a Police Officer with the City of Madison Police Department.

7. FUTURE COMMITTEE WORK

A list of various agenda item topics that have been mentioned at past meetings was circulated to the committee. Chair Stroman requested that during the June meeting she would like to gain a sense of priority on agenda topic items of interest and urgency with those members who may have an interest in adopting an item would work with contacts and organizing programs and presentations for the committee. She said that the recurring agenda item will continue to be on the agenda each month. Last, Chair Stroman mentioned that there will be a vacancy for Co-chair of the Committee since Alder Cheeks has been appointed as an Alder. She said that this position will be on the next agenda item for any citizen committee member who would be interested.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.