



6 Church Street, Gardiner, ME 04345
Phone (207) 582-4200

Debby Willis, Chairperson
Angelia Sencabaugh, Administrative Assistant

ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 22, 2019 @ 3:00 PM

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

1.) Call the meeting to order:

Chairperson- Debby Willis called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

2.) Roll Call:

Chairperson-Debby Willis; Clare Marron; Louis Sigel, Les Young

Also in attendance: Kris McNeill – CEO-Angelia Sencabaugh- Admin. Assist. For Planning & Economic Development; Mark Eyerman- Planner

Absent: Mayor Pat Hart

3.) Preparation for presentation of the Land Use Code Ordinance Amendments to the City

Council on August 14, 2019- The Omnibus is ready to present for first reading and will be on the agenda for the next City Council meeting, scheduled for August 14, 2019. Planning board had made a few minor edits at their last meeting, which have been taken care of. The Planning Board has recommended that the Omnibus, as amended be adopted when it goes before City Council for review. Mark Eyerman has sent to the City Clerk the overview of the Omnibus amendments. The City Clerk has everything she needs to schedule the public

hearing. We are hopeful that all members are present for the meeting. Mayor Hart, Chairperson Willis, and Mark Eyerman will be speaking at the hearing for the presentation of the Omnibus. The overall consensus is that the committee is prepared to present the Omnibus, and hopeful that the process will go smoothly.

4.) Review of draft amendments to the Land Use ordinance dealing with marijuana regulation for the City Council

Mark Eyerman states that Mayor Hart has requested that she would like to see the Draft be the 'Big picture' of what the ordinance will look like. The draft should show what the City will allow in regards to adult use and medical marijuana and where in the city it would be allowed. One thing that is different in this draft from the last meeting is this draft ordinance allows small scale medical marijuana cultivation facilities for registered caregivers. Mark made some changes in the Draft, as requested, by taking marijuana facilities out of Cobbossee Corridor, as this group decided that was not the area for establishments. The Board discussed licensing, and what will need to happen if the city decides to pursue that route. There will definitely need to be questions asked, and further development for this process. Topics that were discussed included- 'Does the application for the marijuana establishment comply with building, plumbing codes? Does this business location meet fire codes, public safety codes, land use codes, are there any issues with discharge to the City's sewer system? Etc.' License applications would go to the city clerk first, and then to city manager. City Manager would then review the application for requirements. If all requirements are met, that application will then go to City Council. The application will be reviewed for passage with or without conditions, or denied. If the application is a renewal, it has to be done within 45 days of the expiration date. City Council meets biweekly, so the time guidelines should not be a problem. There are already State rules in

effect that make sure that there are background checks, checks for financial requirements, etc. Once the state checks have been done, the Municipality licensing process can begin. The board agrees to have Mark Eyerman clean up the overview for Licensing amendments and the land use amendments for Marijuana Establishments to get them ready to send to John Pottle for review. The Board wants to make sure that the Draft is in compliance with State laws before presenting it to City Council. Mark Eyerman reports that there is plenty of time to get this ordinance ready as the State is still saying that it will likely be the end of the year before they will be taking conditional requests.

5.) City Council would also like the Ordinance Review committee to discuss the consideration of a Local Food Sovereignty Ordinance-

This Ordinance is intended to provide residents increased access to local food, to support the ability of residents to produce, sell, purchase, and consume locally produced foods. The goal is also to reduce governmental regulation of locally produced foods. Board members discussed what the City's intention is with the proposal of this Ordinance. There seems to be lots of questions, about food safety, and what the town is willing to risk in regards to that. Other examples of Food Sovereignty Ordinances show that municipalities can exempt themselves from state laws, except for meat and poultry sales. Several members of this board expressed concern about overall safety if this Ordinance were in effect. The Board feels that more research needs to be done, and will revisit at the next meeting.

6.) City Council has requested that Ordinance Review Committee review adjusting the posting time that signs/banners for special events are allowed to be posted.

The Ordinance currently reads: 'Banners shall be displayed no more than twenty-one calendar days prior to an event and shall be removed no later than five (5)

days after an event.'

There is reportedly a business owner who wants to leave an event banner up longer, hence the request for the extended timeframes- more flexibility. The committee agrees that more research into this should happen, and will revisit at the next meeting.

City Council has requested that Ordinance Review Committee reviews

Chapter 9/Snow Removal in Title 13 Health and Safety/New Section 1403 The initial thought was that the Ordinance should include the Arcade Parking lot as a specific area that needed to be included in the snow removal ordinance. After discussion, it appears that the general concern is that there can be hazardous areas, including falling ice, snow, built up ice on sidewalks, roads, etc, in many public areas. That is what needs to be addressed in the ordinance. Mark Eyerman will work on verbiage that will cover the topics listed, and make adjustments to the ordinance for review.

7.) Review of Minutes:

Review of the June 24, 2019 meeting notes- Louis Sigel made a motion to accept the meeting minutes with no changes. Lester Young seconded. All in Favor.

8.) Next meeting date for Ordinance Review will be August 26, 2019 as agreed upon by Committee members

9.) Adjourn-

Chair Debby Willis asked for a motion to adjourn

Clare Marron seconded the motion

All were in favor.

Meeting was Adjourned at 4:35pm.