

Present: Thurow, Ellington, Alt

Absent: none

Also Present: Mayor Palm, Clerk Giese, Adm. Geick, Atty Kleczek Bolin

The meeting was called to order by Ald. Thurow at noon, noting compliance with the Open Meetings law.

Moved by Ellington and seconded by Alt and carried to approve the minutes of October 3, 2016. Motion by Alt, seconded by Ellington to approve the agenda and carried unanimously.

Airport Operations: Mayor Palm reported on the recent Airport Owner's meeting noting that all 3 owners were in attendance. The by-laws state the ownership is split evenly 1/3 each and the Town voted against retaining the split per the by-laws. A vote to increase the capital annual contribution to \$10,000 from each owner was approved unanimously. A vote to move forward with the design with the widening as an alternate cost item was approved. An owner's meeting will occur in the spring at which time the decision on funding for the widening needs to be decided.

Temetra Saunder's request for excess pets

Chief Schauf explained that the PD received a complaint for excess number of dogs in the household. The situation is in September, the officers found 4 adult dogs and three are licensed with the City. She has dogs that are not fixed and she has been raising puppies and selling them for her cost.

Temetra stated that some of the dogs at her house are not always her dogs. Sometimes she bathes dogs for people and their dogs may have been on her property at the time the police visited. She has three dogs and she does not believe in spaying/neutering animals. She has 2 beagles and would like to have another beagle from her as the mother. She does not want to spay her dogs as she feels this is unnecessary. She asked for an extension after receiving notice telling her she had to have her dogs fixed.

Alene confirmed that she has 4 dogs in the house as one is her granddaughter's dog. Temetra is asking for 60 days extension so that she can relocate. She moved into the City with her three dogs, which all of them are licensed. Her granddaughter's dog is also licensed. Before she moved here, she was involved with the Humane Society in Rockford. She has autistic grandchildren and the dogs help them.

Gordy Ringlestetter reported that a neighbor complained of numerous dogs on the property and they found puppies in the house. They did not search the entire house, but the homeowner offered that she provides bathing and grooming for dog owners. The Police state that 411 5th Avenue is not zoned for commercial business use. Temetra stated that none of her neighbors have complained about barking, noise or any other issue to her. Her yard is not fenced in, but her dogs are not running through the neighborhood. Her dogs have bark collars.

Chief Schauf stated there were 3 barking dog complaints in 2014 and the one neighborhood complaining in 2016. Temetra stated there are currently 4 adult dogs and 2 puppies. Her dog breeds are 2 beagles, Terrier, 1 little dog (her granddaughter's). She lives with her daughter who had a heart attack several months ago. She has 3 small children, 5, 3 and 1.

Chief Schauf stated under the current situation, he will support an exception provided that the dogs are spayed or neutered. Alene agreed that the spaying/neutering is required by code. Compliance with the ordinance within 60 days is desired. Moved by Ellington/Alt to not grant an exception, but allow the PD to work with the dog owner to come into compliance within 60 days.

BEDC Code 1.27

Mayor Palm stated people are satisfied with the makeup of the Commission and he would like the Code to reflect that the CDA, SCDC and Chamber of Commerce reps become voting members. The total membership is 13 made up of the Mayor, one rep from CDA, SCDC, Chamber, 8 citizens and 1 Alderperson. Moved by Alt, seconded by Ellington to approve the proposed code and carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be Monday, December 5 at noon. Thurow advised that he has a conflict but offered the others to move forward since there is a quorum.

Moved by Ellington, seconded by Alt and carried to adjourn.

Cheryl M. Giese
Clerk-Finance Director