

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
October 7, 2019**

Chairman Tesoriero called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. in the 2nd floor Common Council Chambers of City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilor Tesoriero, Councilor Corradino and Councilor McBrearty.

Councilor DeMassi was excused.

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilor Hill; Councilor Wilmott; Councilor Gosek; William Barlow, Mayor; Kevin Caraccioli, City Attorney; Deborah Coad, City Chamberlain; Tom Kells; Commissioner of Public Works; Justin Rudgick, Director of Community and Economic Development; Randall Griffin, Fire Chief; Mark Tesoriero, City Clerk; and Caroline Anderson, Animal Control Officer.

MEDIA PRESENT: Steve Yablonski, Oswego Daily News; Matthew Reitz.

A motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2019 was made by Councilor Corradino and seconded by McBrearty; minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

I. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mayor William J. Barlow, Jr. seeks favorable consideration by the Common Council to propose amendments to Chapter 253, Vehicles, Abandoned or Junk. Mayor Barlow said that this is just a simple language change.

COMMITTEE DECISION: Councilor Corradino made a motion to forward a favorable recommendation to the Full Council to authorize the request for amendments to Chapter 253, Vehicles, Abandoned or Junk. Councilor McBrearty seconded the motion, unanimous approval.

THE MAYOR'S OFFICE WILL PREPARE THE RESOLUTION.

2. Mayor William J. Barlow, Jr. seeks favorable consideration from the Common Council for the adoption of a new initiative called “Keep Oswego Clean” which will include the adoption of a new chapter to the City Code as outlined under proposed Local Law No #8. Mayor Barlow said that this a multi-pronged approach to keep Oswego clean. He said that the first area they addressed was littering, he said they are looking to extend the language of what is “litter” actually is to include things such as throwing garbage/other debris from moving car. He said they are also looking to double the fine from \$100 to \$200 for littering. He said that in the Quality of Life Police patrols that were mentioned earlier would also go towards a littering detail to inforce this. He said that the second initiative is no smoking, vaping, or tobacco use on City property. He said this would include City parks, City buildings, City trails, and the City marina. He said they are also looking to double to amount of trash receptacles in every park and in the downtown area. He said they are also presenting a Styrofoam Ban as well, which would ban the use of Styrofoam in the City of Oswego that is for sale. He said this would apply to restaurants but there would be a few exceptions (such as selling of meats and non-profit events to raise money.) He said as a waterfront community he feels as though we have an obligation to keep our waterfront clean, and it has been seen consistently that a large amount of the litter in the waterways is Styrofoam. He said that he is proud of local businesses for supporting this and being willing to make the change. He said that if this law passes there will be a 6 month grace period in which businesses will have to use up the rest of their Styrofoam products. He said they are also looking in to making/passing out reusable tote bags to help spread the word about this. Councilor Hill said he is very happy about this, particularly the smoking ban, as he think it will greatly improve City events in the future.

COMMITTEE DECISION: Councilor Corradino made a motion to forward a favorable recommendation to the Full Council to authorize the adoption of a new initiative called “Keep Oswego Clean” which will include the adoption of a new chapter to the City Code as outlined under proposed Local Law No #8. Councilor McBrearty seconded the motion, unanimous approval.

THE MAYOR’S OFFICE WILL PREPARE THE RESOLUTION.

3. Councilor McBrearty requests discussion regarding Chapter 240, Trees, of the Code of the City of Oswego. Councilor McBrearty said she was hoping for discussion to help with confusion surrounding the Tree Advisory Board. She said that the Lilac trees that the City is planting to replace the ones that were removed last week should last about 30-40 years and that with proper maintenance a large scale removal like this will not be needed again. She said the DPW is in charge in maintaining the City’s trees and that the Tree Advisory Board is there to help the City achieve the Tree City

USA status. She said that the idea is that the DPW and the Tree Advisory Board would collaborate on matters concerning trees within the City. She said that she would like to suggest moving forward a representative of the DPW would sit in on Tree Advisory Board Meetings and that the DPW would be expected to consider opinions provided by the Tree Advisory Board, so that decisions would better reflect the common interest of all citizens. Mayor Barlow spoke on the backstory behind the recent events surrounding the removal of the trees in more detail. He said that Commissioner Kells came before the Committee, with a member of the Tree Advisory Board present, and detailed the plans for the trees and asked the Tree Advisory Board members opinion, to which they said they could support it. He said that even though there is initial negative opinions on these trees, he believes it will benefit the City greatly in the future. He said that the purpose of the Tree Advisory Board is to inform the DPW, as well as Councilors, on how to deal with issues concerning trees but that they do not get final say in issues dealing with trees, and that he has allowed every individual Councilor pick how they will interact with the board.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:36 p.m. by Councilor McBrearty. A second was made by Councilor Corradino, and was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Fitzgerald
Recording Secretary