

MINUTES

Eugene City Council
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

December 7, 2016
12:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: George Brown, Betty Taylor, *Alan Zelenka via phone*, George Poling, Mike Clark, Chris Pryor

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans, Claire Syrett,

Mayor Piercy opened the December 7, 2016, meeting of the Eugene City Council.

1. WORK SESSION: Fireworks

Fire Chief Joe Zaludek and Fire Marshall Al Gerard gave a brief update on fireworks enforcement and background.

Council discussion:

- Use of social media could help with enforcement.
- An ordinance banning fireworks would be unenforceable.
- Most of the fireworks complaints received are for use of illegal ones.
- Conversation about banning fireworks needs to deal with the real problem, not everything.
- Want the ability to deal with bad fireworks through enforcement and education.
- Declaration that fireworks laws are unenforceable sends the wrong message to the community.
- It would be difficult to identify which fireworks are legal or illegal; implementing a total ban would address this issue.

MOTION AND VOTE (*friendly included*): Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Pryor, moved to direct the City Manager to come back to council prior to the presentation of his budget with a plan to do an action plan and budget for adequate enforcement of the laws around illegal fireworks, meaning it would result in a substantial decrease in the use of illegal fireworks. **PASSED 5:1**, Councilor Taylor opposed.

Council discussion:

- Laws to deal with illegal fireworks already exist; need adequate plans and actions needed.
- The message that needs to be conveyed is that use of illegal fireworks will bring a hefty fine.
- Restricting the allowable times to use fireworks use may help.
- It is important to hear from both the Police and Fire chiefs on what can be done.

2. WORK SESSION: Rental Housing Code

Code Compliance Supervisor Rachelle Nicholas, Division Finance Director Lori Kievith, and Planning and Development Director Denny Broad gave a PowerPoint presentation discussing the program history, local contact registration, rental housing complaints, fund overview, committee and board recommendations, and outreach.

Council discussion:

- Concern expressed about what the City charge property owners and the impacts it creates.
- Outreach to educate people is vital to program's success.
- The code is effective and necessary; elimination of the sunset appropriate.
- 10-day notice is too long; consider adding window screens to the code.
- Housing Policy Board agreed unanimously with the recommendations.
- City Manager should do a regular review of the unit fee to make sure it's fair.
- \$10 fee should be maintained; it's accomplishing good work.

MOTION: Councilor Pryor, seconded by Councilor Taylor, moved to direct the City Manager to prepare an ordinance removing the Rental Housing Code sunset date; revising Rental Housing Code provisions to incorporate recommendations from the Housing Policy Board; and to schedule a public hearing on the ordinance for January 17, 2017, and to schedule action on January 23, 2017.

MOTION TO AMEND AND VOTE: Councilor Taylor, seconded by Councilor Brown, moved to amend to include screens as a requirement. **FAILED 2:4**, Councilor Taylor and Brown in support.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: PASSED 6:0

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chuck Crockett
Deputy City Recorder