

City of Wellington Minutes of Meeting

October 27, 2015

The City of Wellington's Regular Commissioner Meeting took place in Farmington Visitor's Center on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Attendance: Present - Mike Newton, Sara Sievert, Sandra Moon, Ellen Hauber, Suzie Arrow, Carrie Ritsert, Judy Kaleher, Lois Roby, Officer Ron Fey and Carol Petrites. Guests - John McIntyre, CPA of McIntyre and Woolridge, PSC.

MOTION to approve Minutes of September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting – Suzie motioned, Ellen 2nd. With all in favor, the motion was approved.

Review of City of Wellington Audit – John McIntyre presented the auditor's report and financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2015 including an unqualified auditor's opinion. Judy will email the financial statements to the Department for Local Government within ten days and mail the necessary pages to all residents. Ellen will post the full Financial Statements on the Wellington website.

Update from Sandra Moon, Commissioner

Facebook – Overall communication through the Wellington Facebook page has been good. Commissioners are no longer responding to Next Door postings as a matter of policy.

Overnight Parking – Revised parking violation forms are in, but no notices were issued this month. Officer Fey will hand write in "continuous two hours" on the notices.

Animal Control – Sandra advised residents to contact Metro 311 to report their complaints about a feral cat on Wendell and any other animal issues.

Civil Summons – The City received a misdirected notice that was intended for a different "Wellington." Sandra corrected the certificate of service on the complaint.

Wellington Community Event – The recent neighborhood event at Farmington was a great success, with 131 residents attending. Ellen will post photos on the Wellington Facebook page. Considerations for next year include: coordinating with Farmington about other events taking place at the same time, relocating the sign-in table for greater accessibility, reducing the amount of food ordered per person and possibly providing beverages. When the final costs are determined for this year's event, the council will discuss a donation to Farmington for use of their facilities.

Updates from Carrie Ritsert, Attorney – Carrie researched Wellington regulations regarding trees planted between the sidewalks and streets and parking pads. She provided photos from LOJIC mapping to address specific concerns, including:

- The tree at 2519 (between the sidewalk and street) has dead wood that needs to be removed, and the owner believes the City is responsible for maintaining the tree. In Carrie's legal opinion, the tree is not Wellington's responsibility. She recommended that the Council establish a tree ordinance that would address future concerns. In the meantime, she suggested the City consider sharing the cost of dead wood removal for this time only.
- Carrie suggested a release form that residents sign when they accept a free tree from Wellington's tree canopy program. This would clarify that all maintenance and care is the responsibility of the home owner.
- Carrie also provided photos of some Wellington streets and noted that parking pads in that location are not permitted. Some small cities have established ordinances to specifically prohibit these, and she suggested Wellington consider such an ordinance.
- Sara will research other cities' ordinances on trees make recommendations to the Council.

MOTION for Wellington to offer to pay 40% of cost to take dead wood out of tree at 2519 Brighton: Sara motioned, Ellen 2nd. All in favor. Mike will present the proposal to the resident.

Updates from Suzie Arrow, Commissioner

Block Watch – Suzie proposed the following Block watch Program procedures.

- Suzie will serve as liaison between the Council and the program and has full authority to make all decisions.

- Mike is liaison will serve as the liaison to Officer Fey and all communication to Officer Fey should go through him.
- Sandra is responsible for communication with the community. Block watch communication via Facebook will focus solely on the facts of the matter, avoid interjecting bias or opinions, encourage residents to follow protocol and attend meetings to discuss issues in person. The City will not respond to posts on NextDoor.

Block watch Co-chair Carol Petrites met with the LMPD Block watch Resource Office and submitted registration forms for the program. There will be a kickoff meeting on November 17 at 7 PM in the meeting room of the 5th Division Police Station. Carol will work Sandra and Ellen to create an event on Facebook and through email to invite residents to the meeting.

Signage – Suzie will work with Eagle Signs for a proposal to add additional “no parking signs” and convert all cylinder posts to square.

PODS – Suzie will follow-up with Wadsworth resident Alan Metts about his POD permit.

Other – Suzie suggested creating a dog walk group through Facebook for those who might be interested.

Update from Mike Newton, Mayor

Economy Inn Update – Mike Newton spoke with Jeff Noble Legislative Aide to Brent Ackerson (District 26) on October 23, 2015 and notes the following

- The Metro Nuisance Ordinance successfully passed the Metro Council last night unanimously and is now awaiting the Mayor’s signature (he is out of town)
- Once signed, the Economy Inn will be cited if they meet or exceed 5 arrests per each 100 rooms in the allotted time by the Ordinance
 - Per Jeff, they have easily exceeded the threshold in the past
- He has expressed our concerns directly with Brent which include:
 - Recent home break ins
 - Numerous car break ins
 - Suspicious vehicles
 - Pan handlers
- Jeff has agreed to reach out the Fifth Division Commander directly stating our concerns and request additional patrols within our City.

Yard and Street Issues –

- A third deficiency notice was mailed to the owner of the 2201 Brighton rental property. Judy will confirm that issues have been addressed. If not, Sara will initiate clean up at the owner’s expense.
- There is an exposed gas line at 2301 Manchester and LG&E has not been responsive to the resident’s complaint. Judy will contact LG&E on behalf of the City.
- Kingsley’s mayor notified Mike that they will be adding speed humps with signage in the near future. Mike asked Carrie to confirm that signs are not required for our street humps, as Wellington’s are striped. A “No Parking” sign is still needed at the Brighton/Kipling intersection, and Sara will determine perimeters for a speed hump.

MOTION to Approve Financial Report for October 2015 – Ellen motioned, Sara 2nd. With all in favor, the motion was approved.

Updates from Judy Kaleher, Treasurer

Rental Permit Ordinance –Judy will mail out letters on November 1.

Updates from Officer Fey

A break-in was reported at 2318 Brighton, and the resident’s home monitoring system recorded the incident. It was later aired on the news. The investigation is underway. Similar break-ins were reported in surrounding neighborhoods. If neighbors see suspicious activity, vehicles or people, they should call the police and include a description and license number, if possible.

Officer Fey also indicated that there were numerous reports of items taken from unlocked cars. He said crimes generally increase during the holiday season, including stealing packages from front porches. Residents might consider having packages delivered to their office or specifying a delivery time when they can be at home to accept delivery.

Updates from Sara Sievert, Commissioner and Mayor Pro Tem

Landscaping/Maintenance – Wallitsch will begin the Brighton/Lowell island project on Thursday. They will keep current light fixtures for future use. Nine canopy trees have been ordered for Wellington residents and one red bud for Laura Blankenship to resolve her MSD problems.

Road Work – Striping, patching and speed hump projects will take place in the spring.

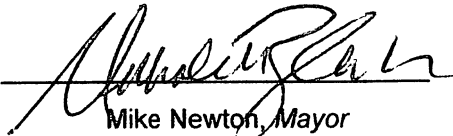
Updates from Ellen Hauber, Commissioner

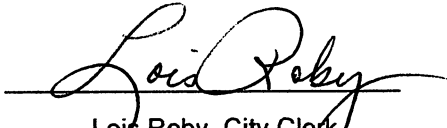
Block watch Communication – Ellen reported that Wellington's new Block watch program will have a separate G-Mail account. Carol will look into setting this up.

Flag – Ellen reported that the flag in the Manchester Road Island needs to be replaced. The cost is estimated at \$100-\$125.

New Business – The Council will meet on November 24th, however, there will be no meeting on December 22nd.

Motion to Adjourn – With no further business to discuss, Sara motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Ellen 2nd. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9 PM.


Mike Newton, Mayor


Lois Roby, City Clerk