

City of Morgantown

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING January 28, 2020

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Morgantown was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:11 p.m.

PRESENT: City Manager Paul Brake, Assistant City Manager Emily Muzzarelli, City Attorney Ryan Simonton, Mayor William A. Kawecki, Deputy Mayor Rachel Fetty, and Council Members Zack Cruze, Jenny Selin, Ron Dulaney, Dave Harshbarger, and Barry Wendell.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Fetty.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Revising Civil Service Code for Residency Requirements – Presenters: Jerry Summers, President, Police Civil Service Commission**

Police Civil Service Commission President Jerry Summers presented council with a request to modify the residency requirements from a 15-air mile radius to a one-hour drive time to the Public Safety Building for officers of the Morgantown Police Department. Fire Civil Service Commission President Shane Mardis also spoke with council to request extending the same residency requirements for the firefighters.

2. **Proposed Sharps Container – Presenter: Lee B. Smith, Executive Director of Monongalia County Health Department**

Monongalia County Health Department Executive Director Lee B. Smith was unable to attend the meeting due to a cold, but sent a letter to be read by City Manager Paul Brake. The letter presented council with information regarding support of placement of sharps containers in the city.

3. **Regulating Construction of Sidewalks and Amending Development Standards: Chris Fletcher, City Planner and Damien Davis, City Engineer**

City of Morgantown Planner Chris Fletcher, and City of Morgantown Engineer Damien Davis presented to council with a proposal of regulation of sidewalk construction and amending development standards.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Deputy Mayor Fetty opened the public portion and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak.

Stephanie Zucker, 20 Scenic Woods Drive, updated council on the signature status of a petition regarding the decriminalization of marijuana in the city.

Robb Livengood expressed support for both an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana as well as the placement of sharps containers.

Alissa Ponzurick, 813 ½ Monongalia Avenue, expressed support for both an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana, as well as the placement of sharps containers.

Andy Cockburn expressed appreciation to council for moving forward on the placement of sharps containers.

Mollie Kennedy, 424 Grand Street, expressed concern of a proposed nuisance ordinance and requested council to decline with proceeding on the ordinance if presented. She also spoke in support of an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana and placement of sharps containers.

Theodore Webb, 38 Woodland Terrace, expressed support of an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana.

Dani Ludwig expressed appreciation to council for moving forward on the placement of sharps containers.

Shelby Johnson invited members of council as well as the general public to a discussion regarding cannabis reform.

Scott Dicken expressed support for an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana.

Ian Hendershot expressed support for an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana.

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Kathryn Burham expressed support for an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Deputy Mayor Fetty closed the Public Portion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Amend Police Civil Service Rules Concerning Residency Requirements

The Police Civil Service discussion for amending residency requirements was moved to the February 4, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda. The Fire Civil Service discussion for amending residency requirements was moved to the February 18, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda.

2. Regulating Construction of Sidewalks and Amending Development Standards

City Planner Chris Fletcher updated council on the progress of regulating construction of sidewalks and amending development standards.

3. Ordinance Revising Morgantown Code Penalties for Cannabis Possession

Morgantown Police Chief Ed Preston explained the effects that will take place on the process of the court system and the processes of the Morgantown Police Department if the ordinance is passed. This item was moved to the February 4, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda.

4. Ordinance Approving a Lease for Air Quality Sampler Shelter

City Manager Paul Brake explained that the ordinance would allow approval of a lease for an air quality sampler shelter. This item was moved to the February 4, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda.

5. Ordinance Providing for Audit Reporting by the Land Reuse and Preservation Agency

City Manager Paul Brake explained if the ordinance is approved by council, the audit time for the Home Rule Board will coincide with the city. This item was moved to the February 4, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda.

6. Ordinance Amending the Boundaries of Certain Zoning Overlay Districts

No discussion, item was moved to the February 4, 2020, Regular Meeting agenda.

7. Kayak/Bike Rental Facility at the Walnut Street Landing/HRM Riverfront

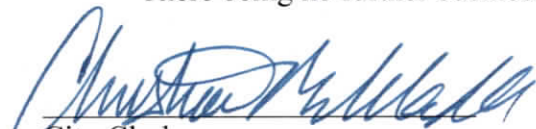
City Manager Paul Brake explained the concept of the proposed kayak and bike rental facility at the Walnut Street Landing/HRM Riverfront. This item was moved to a future meeting agenda after more information is provided to council.

8. December 2019 monthly General Fund Finance Report and Detailed Budget Report

City Manager Paul Brake discussed the monthly report. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by consensus. Time: 10:11 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor