

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD CITY HALL ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018.

The meeting was called to order by Ald. Bailey at 6:30 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL: Alderperson Bailey Present
- Alderperson Lubotsky Present
- Alderperson Saryan Present
- Roger Pyzyk, City Attorney Present

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Jaquish, Director of Park and Recreation

- 2. Election of Chairperson to be done at the next Legislative Committee Meeting. Election of Chairperson
NEXT AGENDA
- 3. Election of Vice-Chairperson to be done at the next Legislative Committee Meeting Election of Vice-Chairperson
NEXT AGENDA
- 4. It was moved by Ald. Saryan, seconded by Ald. Lubotsky to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2018 Legislative Committee as recorded. Motion carried unanimously. 2/19/18 minutes approved
- 5. Discussion and decision to adopt an ordinance amending Section 10.19(1) of the Municipal Code allowing dogs in parks on a leash (Bailey)(LC 9/18/17)(LC 11/20/17)(2/19/18) Disc/adopt ord. amend.
Sec 10.19(1) of Mun.
Code re dogs in parks on a leash

Ald. Bailey stated that the Ordinance has been drafted by City Attorney Roger Pyzyk and heard numerous times by the Legislative Committee. The Park and Recreation Board looked at the proposed ordinance and have done a study with graphs to show the surrounding area parks rules regarding dogs. The Park and Recreation Board came back with a motion to not make any changes to the current ordinance on a 4-2 vote. Several people spoke against the ordinance change at the Park and Recreation Board meeting.

COMMON COUNCIL

Donald Lee Carlson stated he is a cynophilist, one who is favorably exposed to dogs or a dog lover. On March 14th, he read the article in the Greenfield Now titled “Should Greenfield lift its ban on dogs in city parks?” He explained there were also some articles about West Allis regarding recent dog attacks and dogs not being licensed or up to date on their vaccinations. These incidents, as he sees it, shows the unpredictability of dogs and the irresponsibility of the dog’s owner. Mr. Carlson stated he believes the current ban should stay in effect. Not all dog owners pick up after their dogs or have their dogs licensed and/or vaccinated. Many special events in Konkel Park are crowded and loud. His understanding is Milwaukee County parks, including some in Greenfield, allows dogs in the parks, so people can take them there. He thinks the current ban has worked well and hopes that it will stay in effect.

Stefanie Richter asked that the ordinance stays as it is. Some of her concerns are the cost that it is going to take to keep the parks clean and also repairing the new sod that Konkel Park just had put in by the Amp. She stated there is a park in Philadelphia that allows dogs and 97% of the dog owners did not follow the park rules. The dogs were off leashes and the owners did not clean up after them. Her other concern is that if we allow dogs in the park, people will have to call the police more to enforce the rules of dogs not being on leashes and in other restricted areas. She stated there are already people breaking the rules of the current ordinance. She is also concerned about sanitation. Some parks have food trucks and concession stands and dog waste is an environmental issue. The volume of dogs in the parks will go up if people find out dogs are allowed. Konkel Park was designed for people and there are so many people and children afraid of dogs.

Jeanette Janacek is a dog owner and loves dogs. Her recommendation is to keep the ordinance as it is. Ms. Janacek commented on a statement that Ald. Bailey made at the Park and Recreation Board meeting stating, Central Park allows dogs, why can't Greenfield? She explained that Central Park is 843 acres and Konkel park is 35. She stated she went to the website to look at dog guides and Central park has 10 designated areas that don't allow dogs at all including waterways. The website also stated Central Park is very visible and easy to access and they don't know how they would contain the volume of dogs with all the events that occur there. She said Ald. Bailey also mentioned that Milwaukee County allows dogs. That is true, but Milwaukee County doesn't allow dogs at any beaches, picnic areas, children's play areas or athletic fields. She said she went on Milwaukee County's website and found that you can be given a citation by a police officer, deputy sheriff or park ranger even if he or she didn't observe you having your dog in restricted areas. It can be based on the report of someone who did. Millennium Park in Chicago is 24 1/2 acres and doesn't allow dogs. If you are just crossing through the park, you must crate or cage your dog. She stated Darren Rausch, Health Director, and Ald. Lubotsky mentioned a compromise and to allow dogs in certain parks. The problem Ms. Janacek has is with exceptions and the confusion of people not reading the signs of the parks that don't allow dogs. She stated she read an article about an owner of a chocolate lab promoting leading dogs off leashes in county parks because they are less aggressive and fights are only with pit bulls and rottweilers. Ms. Janacek strongly disagrees as she spoke with someone she knew and they had their dog attacked by someone that did not have their dog on a leash. In conclusion, Ms. Janacek stated when managing exceptions it results in confusion and chaos and what you tolerate becomes a standard.

Russel Richter stated he agrees to keep the ordinance in place. Konkel Park is a beautiful park and its success is building with all the events and proposed events being held there. The Park and Recreation Board are the professionals and their decision was to keep the ordinance. Let's leave it to the professionals.

Scott Jaquish, Director of Park and Recreation stated there is information that was provided to the Park and Recreation board. Their recommendation was to create dog parks around the city and to look at the proposed ordinance and tweak it a little bit. The proposed ordinance states no dogs in the farmer's market area but the Parks and Recreation board recommends to extend that to also include the amp area, meaning no dogs allowed in those areas period whether an event is going on or not. A comment was made at another meeting that the presence of dogs would serve as a coyote detractant and attractant which are both untrue. There will be coyotes regardless. Mr. Jaquish recommended adding the word licensed dogs to the proposed ordinance. Making sure that dogs have their shots and are licensed will provide more protection.

Cheryl Bailey, a member of the Park and Recreation Board stated she is for changing the ordinance. She thinks people are over exaggerating. She stated there are a lot of people she talks to at the pet stores and a lot of people want the ordinance changed. The people that own the parks, the citizens of Greenfield, should be able to use what they pay for.

Ald. Lubotsky stated her 15 year old just got back from Boston and thought that it was so neat that restaurants allowed dogs. They go to Greendale for the Farmer's Market and Festivals and most all the events allows dogs. She asked a couple of businesses if they had problems with the dogs and they said no.

Ald. Saryan stated that dogs are not allowed in the parks in Greendale, just the downtown areas.

It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded to Ald. Lubotsky, to adopt an ordinance amending Sec. 10.19(1) of Municipal Code re dogs in parks on a leash. Motion carried 2-1.

6. Discussion and decision to adopt an ordinance creating Section 11.08 of the Municipal Code relating to vehicle theft prevention. (LC 11/20/17)(CC 12/5/17)(LC2/19/18)

Disc/adopt ord. creating Sec 11.08 of Mun. Code relating to vehicle theft prevention

Ald. Bailey stated this was brought by the Police Department having to do with motor vehicle theft prevention, key control and security. The ordinance would state, after hour key drop boxes should be constructed and secured in such ways to prevent access to keys except by authorized personnel and vehicle keys should not be left in vehicles.

COMMON COUNCIL

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Bailey to adopt an ordinance creating Section 11.08 of the Municipal Code relating to vehicle theft prevention. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Review of existing ordinances/procedures for update and/or clarification as the need arises (Bailey, Lubotsky, Saryan)

Update/clarify exist. Ord.

There were no additional items for discussion

8. It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Brittney L. Knippel
Recording Secretary

Distributed 4/26/18