

ZONING AND TECHNOLOGY

January 29, 2015

Attendees: Councilmen Marquette, Minarcin & Staczek, Administrator Ciecka, Solicitor Heban, Zoning Director Zuchowski and Kathy Shelt.

DOWNTOWN PROPERTIES

Discussion centered around the appearance of our downtown store fronts. Mark and Moe identified five in particular. Mark had pictures to show the committee of various concerns he has with these properties. He has had conversations with a couple of the landlords and they appear ready to address some of the issues.

Mark was asked to draft a site specific letter to each property owner, explaining what the problem is and asking for their cooperation in cleaning it up. We want to be aggressive, but at the same time helpful with patience and cooperation.

Rentals in the Downtown district were addressed. Kevin assured the committee that 2nd & 3rd floor apartments are allowed.

RENTAL PROPERTIES

The committee continued discussion on all rental properties throughout the city. Our goal is to protect the community from blighted and deteriorating properties. As mentioned in previous minutes, we are considering registration fees for all rental units as well as a yearly inspection and fee.

Mark and Kevin were asked to work together to formulate a ordinance to be presented to this committee for review and discussion. Mark has put a lot of hours into this project and his input is very valuable.

Mark estimates 600 to 800 rentals in our city. He also estimates that 46% of the rooftops in the tree streets are rentals.

FERREL CATS & SKUNKS

Moe has put a lot of time and energy into this issue. To make a long story short, there are no quick fixes to the problem. We can trap them, but what do we do with them that is humane. Neutering has not proven to be a effective solution. A motion was made to take ordinance #2014-58 off the table that amends 505.08. This would make it illegal to feed cats outside of your house.

Moe identified over feeding of birds and squirrels in residence back yards as the leading growth in skunk population in our city. Moe also believes that trying to educate the city on the root of the problem can help.

FACEBOOK

Ed informed us that he has spoken with Chief Goss about the posting of mug shots on facebook. Jerry would like us to re-work our current policy. Both Moe and I feel it is a good policy. Ed did recommend that we change ordinance #2011-20 that deals with our social media to a resolution.