

Ludlow Caucus Meeting

Notes

January 24, 2019

7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Mayor Josh Boone; Ludlow City Council Members Steve Chapman, Tiffany Grider, Bill Whitely, Tom Amann, and Julie Navarre; City Administrative Officer, Elishia Chamberlain. Council Member Chris Wright was not present.

Discussion Topics

Mayor Boone requested Ms. Chamberlain provide information to Council about the Insurance Premium Tax, and to explain the information obtained in a management document she provided to Council regarding Insurance Premium Tax and its use across the state and regionally. She also provided information on estimation of revenues per increases at incremental levels in the tax. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bill Mullins, resident, commented that he felt it was unfair to consider the increased tax burden to responsible citizens.

Tom Amann began discussion on the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. Discussion ensued. Tom Amann would like to see the summary of citizen feedback. Mr. Amann mentioned the last Council was in favor of the district covering areas from Elm Street north to the river, and some requests have been made to include the churches. Mr. Chapman felt having the district cover the area to the river will deter house flippers. It was noted by Mayor Boone that the guidelines are designed to remain flexible, and how historic preservation will increase property values. Brenda Boone, resident, added that the original HP-O included the area from the rail (Poplar) to the River. She stated how an Historic District will be recession proof. Ms. Grider mentioned she was not able to attend prior public engagement meetings and requested another. Mayor Boone discussed having PDS Staff or Patrick Snadon, UDRB, attend a Council Meeting to present.

Mayor Boone opened discussion regarding Residential Parking Permits/Passes and stated he is in support of a trial on Montclair. Steve Chapman called a source at City of Newport and they told him the police could not enforce their Residential Parking Passes until they created an Entertainment Zone. Ms. Chamberlain explained how the program worked, including enforcement, and referenced the packet provided to Mayor and Council with various models and the advised course of action. Discussion ensued. Multiple individuals mentioned the painted urban parking spaces on Elm and other streets as being integral to remedying parking issues. Mr. Dan Ashcraft, resident, provided testimony as he spoke to Council requesting consideration of the program for Kenner. Mr. Chapman commented Kenner and Butler should be considered for this trial as well.

Council Member Amann began discussions on the creation of an Event Permit. Discussion ensued. During discussion it was mentioned future consideration of a waiver of fee for use, or discounted fee, for 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations. The use of the "official use" section in the Covington application

provided to Council was noted as being worthy of consideration. It was mentioned by Mr. Amann he would like to learn about percentage collection of booth rentals from for profit events. Council was informed they need to pass a fee schedule for inclusion in the Event Permit administrative document.

Mr. Boone began discussion on Ludlow Vicious Dog Ordinance and its breed specific legislation. Discussion ensued. Connie, resident, and her son James both spoke to Council about their desire to see breed specific language removed from the ordinance and provided personal testimony as to why. Discussion ensued. Notable comments include: tightening enforcement of leash laws, registering animals, clinics to educate the public on being good dog owners, and many statements of difficulty in enforcing breed specific legislation.

Public Comment

Mr. Bill Mullins, resident, spoke to Council and inquired about brush clearing at rail viewing station.

Announcements

Mayor Boone alerted everyone that he would be cancelling the February 14, 2019 meeting and rescheduling the meeting for February 21, 2019.

The meeting concluded at 8:47 p.m.