

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Reams at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mark Reams, Deb Groat

Others Present: Terry Emery, Chief Riley, Chief Golden

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the meeting on November 10, 2014 tabled until next meeting.

Agenda:

Update Snow Removal from Public Sidewalks: Mr. Emery said last week we asked Code Enforcement to follow up after our snow falls so we can evaluate various areas of the City to see how people are doing. Code Enforcement monitored the sidewalks and were pleased with what they saw. As of January 7, 2015, subdivisions in Marysville had about 75% of their sidewalks cleared, businesses had salt down to keep up with the cold temperatures, and a majority had cleared sidewalks. Marysville Schools had good removal as well. Snow removal from the uptown sidewalks had room for improvement. In the uptown we gave the businesses the 24/48 hour period to see what kind of an impact they made on the sidewalks. If they had not done anything with their sidewalks, we were sending ORW workers to those locations to clear those sidewalks and Code Enforcement was documenting the address of the business or home and then we are going to forward out letters to those businesses, letting them know they had failed to clear their sidewalks. The letter would indicate we need their full cooperation to make sure the entire uptown gets a good clearing. We will continue to do that over the next few weeks. We do not want them to feel that we will not send ORW in until after 48 hours, but we will watch them and see how they clear and then we will send someone in to get them cleared.

Mrs. Groat asked whether there is a cost to the City? Mr. Emery said the cost of the ORW workers is the cost of our staff that oversees their work. Mr. Emery said we are up there usually anyway doing the handicap ramps and other things anyway. Mrs. Groat asked whether the letters that are being sent out are not threats, just information? Mr. Emery agreed. Mr. Reams said we would not have the ORW workers there if it wasn't for the snow though. Mr. Emery said we would still have them there for the ramps.

Mrs. Groat asked what the time line is for becoming more assertive/aggressive with the uptown owners about this issue? Mr. Emery said right now we are not wanting to get into a situation where we are going to take enforcement action. We are going to send these letters out and watch the next snows to see if we get a response and get a change. We may meet with the property owner(s) to talk to them about the importance of making sure they clear their sidewalks.

Mr. Emery said we are still putting out public information on the importance of snow removal on the cable information channel, on the monitors in city hall, the City website, and on our facebook page. What was interesting is Anna did receive a call last week from a long time resident who lives on Grove Street. The resident said in the 30+ years she has lived on Grove, she has never seen the sidewalks cleared as well as they were last week. She went on to say the sidewalks were not only cleared well but it was clear as far as she could see on both sides of the street. Mr. Emery said we are making progress.

Mr. Reams asked if we received any calls reporting individuals. Mr. Emery replied no but if we do we will follow up. Mr. Reams said he noticed the sidewalks were cleared so much better this winter than any winter by far.

Mrs. Groat said we need to come up with a plan so maybe after the third or fourth time we remove snow from a business, they are assessed a fee. Mr. Emery said that is probably something we need to look into.

Mr. Reams asked how we address a residential property and thought the answer is to put hangers on their door. So, what if it is a known snowbird? Mr. Emery said if it is a known snowbird we have a way in our utility system to get in touch with them.

Mrs. Groat asked where put the snow. If she owns a shop and she has snow in front of her shop what do I do with it? Mr. Emery said right in the uptown, he said he would ask them to put it along the curb edge. The City is going to plow from curb to curb if cars are not parked there.

Mr. Emery said it has been a good process and has worked up to this point.

Mr. Reams raised the issue regarding the Delaware app and noted that Mr. Emery had talked with the City Administrator and they use to get a lot of information from it but they are not getting much anymore. Mr. Reams contacted the guy who first told him about the app, because we had the snow coming. The app has not been updated with the newest ios and it crashes.

Comments of Citizens: None

Adjournment: Mr. Reams adjourned the meeting at 7:24pm.