

February 27, 2019

A special meeting of the Sleepy Eye City Council was held in the Council Chambers, 200 Main Street East, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, at 12 Noon on the 327th day of February 2019. Mayor Pelzel, Councilors Nate Stevermer, Larry Braun, Joann Schmidt, Gary Windschitl and Doug Pelzel were present. Also present was City Manager Mark D. Kober, City Attorney Alissa Fischer, and City Manager elect Kelli Truver. Also present was the blight committee and Matt Ibberson, Blight Inspector.

Discussion occurred in 3 areas, Rental License Procedures, Front yard parking and Boarded windows.

Much discussion occurred about the rental ordinance passed in 2006. City Attorney Alissa Fischer maintained that the ordinance was a good one that had not been easy to fully enforce and that inspections and licensing for rental properties has been suspended. She also noted changes that would be beneficial and the penalties for missed inspection appointments and repeated inspection requirements. Legal action to enforce the ordinance passed in 2006 had not been done and offenders simply would not meet inspectors at the rental properties. It was agreed that the license fee for rental homes and apartments would be \$100 for a two-year period. This applies to homes or apartments that are not required to be otherwise inspected by the State or Federal government already. Inspections needed every 2 years. The rest of the fees in the original ordinance will suffice, however the new ordinance will refer to all fees in a separate resolution. City Manager Mark Kober and Kelli Truver will negotiate with Matt Ibberson on rental inspections pay and scheduling. City Attorney will bring a new ordinance and resolution to the March 12, 2019 Council meeting for consideration.

Second area of discussion was parking in front yards. Now the ordinance requires that parking in front yards only be on gravel and concrete not on grass and dirt. Many suggestions were voiced on the parking issue. City Attorney Alissa Fischer stated that after research on about 60 City policies that a solution might be requiring only a percentage of front yards be allowed for parking. Discussion occurred on a myriad of possibilities. Kelli Truver asked the blight committee why this subject had come up and they stated that they had received complaints. When asked how many complaints were received the response was 2. She then asked if the discussion was warranted when only 2 complaints were heard. Council elected to leave the present requirement that front yard designated parking only be done on gravel or concrete as is now required.

Discussion occurred boarded up windows on building with broken windows and if a blight policy should be considered. Council elected to recommend the discussion to the new formed downtown revitalization committee who will be responsible for building standards.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42.

Mayor Wayne Pelzel

Mark D. Kober, Clerk Pro Tem

