

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 – 5:45 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Andreano, Vice Chairman Gonzalez, Alderman Witte, Alderman Dougherty, Alderman Crawford, Alderman Smith, and Alderman George. Others: Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Bob Bell, Fire Chief; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Andreano called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, November 20, 2018)

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2018 meeting was made by Alderman Andreano, seconded by Alderman George. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

### 3. Unfinished Business

None

### 4. New Referrals for Consideration

- a. PL #03-19: (Crawford) To amend the City of Olean Code of Ordinances Section 24-134 to include Winters Avenue, East, between Washington Street and Sullivan Street, and to authorize the installation of “No Parking” signs on the east side of Winters Avenue.

Alderman Crawford explained that Winters Avenue is a narrow street that connects Washington and Sullivan Streets. He explained that there are quite a few apartments on the street, although there is a lot of off street parking as well. He has seen ambulances and garbage trucks back up the street because they could not get through.

Alderman Crawford continued that he has looked at the number of apartments on the street, and he feels that the no parking signs would be better suited on the west side of the street.

A motion to amend PL #03-19 to state no parking on the west side of Winters Avenue, and to authorize the installation of “No Parking” signs on the west side of Winters Avenue, was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

Alderman Andreano asked if there are sidewalks on the street, and Alderman Crawford responded that they are on both sides of the street.

Mayor Aiello asked if this has been referred to the Director of Public Works, the Fire Chief, and the Police Chief for their comment. Alderman Crawford replied that he did speak to the Director of Public Works, but that he will reach out to the Fire and Police Chiefs for their input.

A motion to refer PL #03-19 to the Committee of the Whole Tuesday, January 22, 2019 was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

b. Discussion – Petting Zoo / Display Animals

Alderman Smith explained that there is a situation in the City where a small business that sells animal products seasonally had some of their animals on display; however, Code Enforcement received a complaint, and since the type of animal is not contained in the Code of Ordinances, they had to be removed. He asked if there is a way to allow for these display and exhibition animals, possibly with a permit. Mr. DiCerbo replied that he has found that a lot of municipalities have put into place a licensing or permit process for this. He explained that he could put something together to amend the Code of Ordinances that would allow for display an exhibition animals by permit, with restrictions. He explained that it would be up to the Council to determine what zoning districts this would be allowed in, as well as what safety restrictions and requirements are necessary. This is allowable by the New York State Department of Agriculture and the USDA.

Alderman Smith asked if Mr. DiCerbo could put together something for the Council to look at, and Mr. DiCerbo replied that he will.

Jean Ewings explained that she and her husband raise alpacas, and the ones that were present at their store were raised to be around children, as well as trained, vet checked and microchipped. She explained that they are present at the store as an educational tool, as she uses the alpaca fiber to create yard and later goods for sale. She explained that the animals have been at several events, such as StrOlean, and they are trained to ensure that everyone is safe.

Alderman Andreano asked how long the alpacas are present, and Ms. Ewings replied that they are only present during the holiday season between Thanksgiving and Christmas. She has the shop open evenings on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and usually from 11am to 7pm on the weekends.

Randy Ewings explained that the alpacas are pretty much vital to the store. He explained that they purchased the old Morgan Linen building across from the Washington West School, which is where the shop is located. He explained that they do not charge to see the animals or to take them to events, and if he knew that they should have had a permit to have the animals present, he would have gotten one. He added that they are registered with the Cattaraugus County Tourism Bureau, and their farm is open for people to come visit.

Alderman Andreano asked how the petting zoo at another local business was allowed at Easter time, and Mr. DiCerbo replied that there is nothing in the Code that would legally allow that.

Alderman Andreano explained that we need to have further discussion on this topic. Mr. DiCerbo explained that he would put together draft legislation for the Council to review.

#### 5. Approval of Committee Reports

A motion to approve committee reports was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

#### 6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Andreano, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.