

CITY OF BURTON  
LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 11, 1991, 6:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Legislative Meeting was called to order by Chairman Smiley at 6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Smiley, Card and Walls.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mayor, Jane L. Nimcheski; J. Major, Assistant DPW Director and W. Walworth, City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Discussion and Possible Action On The Following Items:  
1) Policy for Board Members; 2) Weed Ordinance;  
3) Temporary Signs and Other Matters That Might Arise.

PRESENTATION:

TEMPORARY SIGNS:

X Jeff Major reviewed the temporary sign issue. He said there is no ordinance on temporary signs and they are not allowed under the zoning ordinance.

POLICY-MEETINGS OF APPOINTED COMMITTEES:

X Mr. Hamilton said the true meaning of an ex-officio member of a committee is one with full rights of that body. He said he thinks the intent of the Council was a member with no voting rights.

WEED ORDINANCE:

X Mr. Smiley said the committee had a draft of the weed ordinance before them.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

TEMPORARY SIGNS:

None.

POLICY-MEETINGS OF APPOINTED COMMITTEES:

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh St., said the Council had been operating under the same rules for the last 15 years and she hoped they would continue the current practice of an ex-officio member and posting of all meetings.

Mr. Martinbianco expressed concern on the limiting aspects of the proposed policy. He said Council members and sub committees should have the freedom to meet away from City Hall to iron out and discuss ideas with other organizations in the community and then bring them back to the Council. He asked the committee not to take away the right of any Council member to meet out in the community and said that members cannot be restricted from attending meetings away from City Hall at the request of the community. He asked if the ex-officio member had ever attended meetings as a part of the committee.

X Mayor Nimcheski said she had attended as ex-officio when she was Council President.

Mr. Cross wanted to know what was discussed at the school board sub-committee meeting and why the Finance Committee was present. He said the ex-officio member should have been notified.

Mr. Cross said the Council President should not be compelled to attend committee meetings but should remain as ex-officio if he wished to attend.

Mr. Martinbianco said it was the responsibility of the school board to release the information on their meeting.

WEED ORDINANCE:

X None.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

TEMPORARY SIGNS:

X Mayor Nimcheski said if the Council adopts regulations to prevent temporary signs, that it would have to be pursued aggressively with necessary staff. She said it is a difficult area to police.

Mr. Hamilton said it should be addressed in a separate ordinance and not in the zoning ordinance.

POLICY-MEETINGS OF APPOINTED COMMITTEES:

X Mr. Smiley said members can attend any meeting they want to but a City Board meeting must be posted.

Mr. Card said he doesn't care where meetings are held just so citizens have input.

Mrs. Walls said she did not recall that the Council had asked Mr. Martinbianco to attend any meeting away from City Hall.

Mayor Nimcheski asked if this policy would apply to the Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Hamilton said that was addressed in the Charter.

WEED ORDINANCE:

Mr. Hamilton said he was bothered by the definition of weeds in the ordinance. He asked if the cutting was only based on written complaints and was told yes.

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OTHER ITEMS:

Mayor Nimcheski advised the committee that the Fire Chief was putting some materials together for the Legislative Committee to review at a later date.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

TEMPORARY SIGNS:

Moved by Card, supported by Walls to recommend to the total Council that the Council President appoint a Citizens Advisory Committee to study a sign ordinance, made up of Citizens of the community, Business people and a representative of the administration. Motion carried 3-0.

POLICY-MEETINGS OF APPOINTED COMMITTEES:

Moved by Card, supported by Walls to recommend the following "Meetings of Appointed Committee Policy" to the total Council:

1. Appointed Committees will meet only under the approval of the Council or Council President.
2. Meetings of appointed committees will be scheduled by the chairperson of the committee.
3. Meetings of appointed committees will be operated in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act. (Public Act No. 267 of 1976.)
4. Meetings are to be held at city hall, the senior citizens center, the police/fire facility or any other facility approved by the council.

Motion carried 3-0.

WEED ORDINANCE:

Moved by Card, supported by Walls to recommend to Council the adoption of the changes to the weed ordinance, contingent on review and modification by the Attorney. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

William R. Walworth  
Burton City Clerk

WRW/cml