

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ALDERMEN OF TWIN OAKS,
TWIN OAKS TOWN HALL
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Twin Oaks Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:02 pm.
Roll Call was taken:

Mayor: Russ Fortune-yea

Aldermen: April Milne –yea
Dennis Whitmore –yea

Lisa Eisenhauer – yea
Tim Stoeckl – yea

Also Present: Paul Rost, City Attorney
Kathy Runge, City Administrator/Clerk

Permanent records are kept of all minutes and ordinances. Each ordinance is read a minimum of two times by title, unless otherwise noted.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Fortune asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Alderman Milne motioned to approve the Agenda as amended seconded by Alderman Stoeckl. The motion passed by a voice vote.

NUISANCE PROCESS

Mayor Fortune reviewed the current procedure on notification of a Nuisance. Alderman Milne stated that she would like the City to have a courtesy notice/contact first. She feels that a phone call would be appropriate. Administrator Runge stated that she feels that a phone call does not provide a paper trail or can open up a situation of miscommunication or present an uncomfortable situation.

Alderman Eisenhauer stated that she liked the phone call but would like to follow up with a letter. Attorney Rost stated that a log of the contacts which have been made should be kept. Alderman Milne stated that if a letter is written as the preliminary contact that she would like Administrator Runge to deliver the letter. She felt that this is part of being a public servant. Administrator Runge stated that she did not feel comfortable going to a resident's home in this capacity. She felt that her safety could be put in jeopardy.

Alderman Eisenhower stated that we could accomplish the same objective if the City would hire a Code Enforcement Officer. This would take Administrator Runge out of the initial contact. She would then be another point of contact for the resident if they had any questions or concerns. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed to have Administrator Runge contact Manchester and Ballwin regarding their Code Enforcement services as well as independent individuals who do code enforcement.

The Board agreed that once a Code Enforcement officer is in place they would like for this person to do a sweep of the City and to report back to the Board with their findings. This way the Board can see what they are looking for and the Board can direct the Code Enforcement officer towards the direction they would like to take. Alderman Eisenhower stated once the process is in place, she would like to have a citywide review once in the Spring and once in the Fall. Alderman Milne stated that before the process begins that the residents are given ample notice.

Mayor Fortune and the Board agreed that the process of notification contained in the City's codebook, at this time, is adequate for the abatement process.

The Board then proceeded to review Section 215.100 Excessive Growth of Weeds and Vegetation. Mayor Fortune stated that this section dictates all areas not specifically lawns. Mayor Fortune feels that a lot of Twin Oaks is a forested area. Discussion ensued on grass height, what constitutes a lawn or a woodland area.

The Board agreed to change grass height from 8" to 12". It was agreed that if a resident wants to have a natural landscape or let their yard go native, a permit would need to be obtained from the City which would include a layout and a plan of various plants. The question was also raised if a definition of a lawn needs to be included.

The Board moved to Section 215.030 Nuisances, Generally. This section is based mostly on State Statute. Discussion ensued on the contents of this Section. The Board agreed to remove number 9 which states that common drinking cups, roller towel, combs, brushes or eating utensils in public or semipublic places where not properly sanitized after use.

Discussion ensued regarding the stacking of wood.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Alderman Eisenhower motioned to adjourn the special meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Alderman Stoeckl and the motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board of those present.

Drafted By: Theresa Gonzales
Theresa Gonzales,
Administrative Assistant

Date of Approval: 2-27-19

ATTEST:

Kathy A. Runge
Kathy A. Runge,
City Administrator/Clerk

Russ Fortune
Russ Fortune,
Mayor, Board of Aldermen