

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING WORKSHOP AGENDA  
JULY 2, 2018 @ 5:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. Call meeting to order
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Meeting Workshop Agenda
4. Discussion with Staff to Review, Clarify and Revise City Code.
5. Adjournment

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 2, 2018**

The Council Workshop meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., Mayor Richard Nagel presiding.

Members present: Mayor Rich Nagel, Tom Hatlestad, Jim Heiland

Members absent: Michelle Battcher, Ben Jaszewski, Adam Cowell

Also present: City Adm. Pat Melvin, Police Chief John Petterson, Police/City Adm. Assistant Vicki Pomplun, Craig & Georgia Buss

Motion by Hatlestad, seconded by Heiland, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

The purpose of the Council Workshop meeting was to have discussion with staff to review, clarify and revise the City Code.

Administrator Melvin explained that there were some areas within the Code that needed some revisions. It was noted that Chapter 11-Animal Control currently does not permit chickens in residential districts. Chief Petterson stated that several residents were noted to have chickens (approximately 5-6 each) and ducks within the city. His office had not received any complaints to-date. It was his recommendation to revise the ordinance to make allowance for chickens and ducks with conditions, but no roosters. Heiland commented that the City of Shorewood allowed chickens and explained the process they have in place. Craig Buss commented that he had checked with a couple of other cities (Hutch, Glencoe, and Mankato) to see what they had in place; and their ordinances were vague, but did allow them, whereas Arlington does not. Buss commented that he was not opposed to getting a permit and having to notify his neighbors. He understood there would be restrictions/guidelines to follow. Pomplun expressed concern about creating a nuisance issue with barking dogs. Concern was also expressed about manure control. It was suggested to get more information from other cities (copies of other ordinances).

Discussion was held on race cars (former Ordinance 187). Chief Petterson stated that Chapter 6-Nuisances only partially addresses race car issues; however former Ordinance 187 addresses them in a more complete capacity (events at the fairgrounds, etc.). It was commented that things have been operating well for several years and don't want to see issues arise or revert back to how they were before the ordinance was implemented and problems develop because the language was not included in the Code. Chief Petterson commented that his office had received a noise complaint about activity occurring on the racetrack during the day, which prompted him to look at the Code for regulations.

There was some discussion about the fact that the former ordinances (what Code was compiled from) were still on the City's web site, in addition to the new Code. This was confusing and/or conflicting to the general public and law enforcement. It was noted that once the Code was adopted that's what law enforcement was to go by, not the former ordinances. Chief Petterson commented on the issues he and his officers are having with enforcing the Code due some of the conflicting information available to them and the public.

Chief Petterson also addressed his concerns about enforcement of the Code, whether by State Statute Citation, Ordinance or Code citation. He was going to speak to Attorney Arneson on this. He would like to see a civil citation versus a criminal one.

Outdoor storage, dustless surface requirement and year yard parking was discussed (under Chapter 6-Nuisances). Pomplun explained that before codification happened and the Code was adopted, the City had adopted Ordinance 259-Nuisances (a stand-alone ordinance), which required a dustless parking surface in year yards. Several years later the Planning Committee created Ordinance 300-Outdoor Storage, which also had the same requirement. Due to considerable push back from the public, the Planning Committee revised the Ordinance (311) and eliminated the dustless surface requirement in the rear yard only; all other requirements remained in place. When codification occurred and the Code was adopted, the language within Chapter 6 was the same as what was within 259/300 and not what was in 311 pertaining to the rear yard requirement (a clerical error). Members of the Council were not opposed to revising the outdoor storage language to eliminate the dustless surface requirement altogether regardless of where they may be parked on the property as long as the property is properly maintained in a neat and orderly fashion.

Chief Petterson addressed the amount of wood allowed to be stored on a property. He was recommending a change, as two cords of wood is not sufficient to heat a house, which some resident still do in town. There was no opposition to the request as long as the wood was neatly stacked.

It was suggested to have the Planning Committee and Attorney Arneson revisit the language within the Code.

Motion by Heiland, seconded by Hatlestad, and passed by unanimous vote of those present to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm.

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City Administrator Patrick Melvin

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Mayor Richard Nagel