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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP

KERRVILLE, TEXAS
AUGUST 15, 2017

On August 15, 2017, the Kerrville City Council workshop was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mayor White in the city hall council chambers at 701 Main Street.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Bonnie White	Mayor
George Baroody	Mayor Pro Tem
Vincent C. Voelkel	Councilmember
Mary Ellen Summerlin	Councilmember
C. Warren Ferguson	Councilmember

COUNCILMEMBER ABSENT: None

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Mark McDaniel	City Manager
Mike Hayes	City Attorney
E.A. Hoppe	Deputy City Manager
Brenda Craig	City Secretary
Sabine Kuenzel	Executive Director of Development Services
Guillermo Garcia	Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives
Sandra Yarbrough	Director of Finance
Kim Meismier	Director of General Operations
Curtis Thomason	Assistant Police Chief
Dannie Smith	Fire Chief
Danny Batts	Director of Development Services
Susan Michelson	Municipal Court Clerk
Trina Sanchez	Asst. Director of Development Services
Donna Bowyer	Code Enforcement Officer

VISITORS PRESENT: List on file in city secretary's office for the required retention period.

CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE:

Ms. Kuenzel reviewed the types of code enforcement issues and noted that staff focused on achieving voluntary compliance. She discussed funding options in situations where voluntary compliance and volunteer assistance programs did not cover expenses, including payment plans and property liens.

Ms. Kuenzel noted that recently code compliance began taking some proactive measures instead of responding solely to complaints received. Staff discussed various reasons to support a proactive approach as well as reactive: affects neighborhood crime, health, public safety, and enforces ordinances

systematically city-wide. Mr. Hayes discussed the issue of fair and equal enforcement vs. the appearance of selective enforcement.

Council also discussed the following points:

- Need a full review and possible rewrite of the sign ordinance; staff should advise council of the number and type of exceptions to the current ordinance.
- Staff should provide educational notices regarding the sign ordinance to the chamber of commerce to distribute to their members; this would assist with voluntary compliance and gain feedback for future discussions.
- Staff should advertise the voucher process whereby citizens can receive a voucher to dispose of larger items at the landfill without paying the fee.
- Review city's junk vehicle ordinance. Under state law collectors were exempt from junk vehicle regulations; however, state law did not address the number of vehicles a collector may have. Staff should make recommendations for council's consideration, including restricting the number and location of junk vehicles.
- Council should not have codes unless staff is going to enforce them; also, there should be no ordinances that require staff to make a judgement call.
- Neighborhoods should police themselves to the level of code enforcement they desire, through the complaint process; staff should focus on addressing complaints received with available resources and instead of being proactive.

Mr. Batts noted that homeowner associations have asked the city to help enforce city codes as HOAs do not have authority to enforce city ordinances. HOAs have to hire a lawyer to enforce their regulations.

Mr. McDaniel noted staff had begun the process of being proactive to address properties that had grievous violations. Staff will prepare statistics and results for council's review in three months; the report will also address how proactive vs. reactive affected staff's workload, the types of violations found, and the results achieved.

Ms. Kuenzel noted that staff's main focus in 2018 will be: code enforcement in gateway corridors, demolition of dilapidated structures, ordinance amendments (sign, junk vehicles), and the comprehensive plan.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

APPROVED: 09/12/2017

ATTEST:

Bonnie White, Mayor

Brenda Craig City Secretary