



Recommending Committee Minutes

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS ANTHONY, COFFIN and FIORE (via teleconference)

ALSO PRESENT: CHIEF OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER JORGE CERVANTES, DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCÁK, CITY CLERK LUANN D. HOLMES and DEPUTY CITY CLERK DEBRA A. OUTLAND

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive.

3. Bill No. 2019-21 - For possible action - Amends LVMC Chapter 9.38 to establish an additional City procedure for retrieving shopping carts and laundry carts that have been abandoned or used without authorization.

Sponsored by: Councilman Cedric Crear

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing open.

JERRY WALKER, Director of Operations and Maintenance, stated being in possession of shopping carts is illegal, and this bill is an amendment to that existing code. At one point, the shopping carts were discarded and dumped, but now the City collects and holds them. However, the current policy for collecting them is rather cumbersome and the fee collected is low, so the City loses money on each cart.

The new policy will allow staff to collect the carts, hold them for a minimum of 30 days, and then one day a month, the cart owners will be allowed to come to the yard where they are stored, and will be required to pay a fee that is more comparable to what it cost to collect them.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY asked if this would consist of shopping carts from businesses such as Smith's and the business would be contacted to retrieve them. MR. WALKER explained the businesses will be advised of which day (probably the first Wednesday of every month) they can come to the open yard and go through the inventory to retrieve their carts. The individual that is sent must have verification that they are representing that business for the purpose of retrieving the carts. The representative must pay a per-cart-fee at City Hall and present a General Fund receipt at the yard, at which time the City will turn over the number of carts they paid for. He informed COUNCILMAN ANTHONY that the fee will be in the \$5.00 to \$10.00 range per cart; currently it is a couple of dollars.

COUNCILWOMAN FIORE did not wish for the carts being stored to become an eyesore in Ward 6. MR. WALKER stated they would be stored at the satellite yard on Vegas Drive and Decatur Boulevard away from public view. He explained the more aggressive push to collect these carts ties in with the more aggressive push by the Department of Public Safety and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department to collect the carts. He noted the City will take every cart collected, but will not take any personal belongings.

An internal procedure will be written detailing how debris will be collected from the roadways, which includes illegally-possessed shopping carts. COUNCILWOMAN FIORE thanked MR. WALKER and reiterated she wanted to ensure the storage of the carts did not become an eyesore to the citizens of Las Vegas. MR. WALKER stated the underlying goal was for the carts to be collected more proactively and processed quicker so that they do not become an eyesore and that staff believes the failure to be proactive encourages further theft of the private properties. The Councilwoman agreed.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing closed.

Subsequent to the motion and vote, COUNCILMAN ANTHONY stated this bill will go to the July 17, 2019 City Council meeting for approval.

Motion made by Bob Coffin to Approve as Do Pass

Passed For: 3; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Stavros Anthony, Michele Fiore, Bob Coffin;

4. Bill No. 2019-22 - For possible action - Amends LVMC Chapter 10.48 to establish prohibitions regarding the attaching of certain items to trees, poles, structures, amenities, walls and fences within or near public rights-of-way, along with associated authority to remove such items. Sponsored by: Councilman Cedric Crear

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing open.

JERRY WALKER, Director of Operations and Maintenance, stated this bill is needed to address unauthorized access to various components, specifically in the downtown area, which can create visual blight and safety hazards when attaching items to utility components. Additionally, trees have been damaged when items have been attached to those. Currently, there is no ordinance prohibiting this activity, so having an ordinance in place will make it easier for the Department of Public Safety and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department to enforce. He noted this would also become more important with the takeover of the cemetery at Owens Avenue and Las Vegas Boulevard, where this is a constant problem.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY asked about those individuals that put up signs stating they buy houses. MR. WALKER indicated the next item on the agenda addresses signs. This item refers to clotheslines, tents hooked into things and boards placed across utility components to make a shelter, etc. He stated staff is not asking for widespread enforcement of this; it is more of a deterrence issue with the last option being a citation if a person is unwilling to comply.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing closed.

Subsequent to the motion and vote, COUNCILMAN ANTHONY stated this bill will be heard at the July 17, 2019 City Council meeting.

Motion made by Bob Coffin to Approve as Do Pass

Passed For: 3; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Stavros Anthony, Michele Fiore, Bob Coffin;

5. Bill No. 2019-23 - For possible action - Amends LVMC Title 13 to add a new Chapter 60 to authorize the removal and disposition of signs and attention gaining devices that have placed on City property or in public rights-of-way illegally. Sponsored by: Councilman Cedric Crear

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing open.

JERRY WALKER, Director of Operations and Maintenance, stated the sign ordinance is in Title 19, but it is obscure so staff asked for something more specific in order to proactively remove the proliferation of nuisance signs. The plan is to proactively remove all signs on days when the department is fully staffed (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays). A sign seen on other days that poses an immediate hazard, (i.e. a sandwich board sign placed in the middle of a handicapped ramp where people cannot get by) will also be moved.

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAK stated the City Attorney's Office had one amendment to clean up some language involving Lines 3 and 4 on Page 2. If a motion is made to recommend this bill, he asked that it be a recommendation as a First Amendment.

COUNCILMAN COFFIN wanted to make sure weekend yard sale signs were not being targeted. MR. WALKER responded as standard practice, staff will remove all signs, but will restrict the removal to Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Councilman thought this was reasonable.

Discussion took place between COUNCILMAN COFFIN and MR. WALKER with regard to individuals who place signs stating there are children and/or pets in an area and how best to inform the public where the right-of way is located. MR. WALKER explained where the right-of-way ends varies, but in most instances, it is clear. He emphasized the bill allows for the widespread removal of nuisance signs from the right-of-way in order to eliminate the blight without the Code Enforcement process, not to create problems with regard to other notification signs.

For those individuals who wished to take the time and spend the money to place a safety sign in their neighborhood, MR. WALKER added that staff would work with Traffic Engineering and assist those individuals or see if the City would be willing to place a sign for them.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY declared the Public Hearing closed.

Subsequent to the motion and vote, COUNCILMAN ANTHONY stated this bill will be heard at the July 17, 2019 City Council meeting. He also informed staff that signs are placed on poles all the time in the northwest, and it does not look good. MR. WALKER stated that should decrease once the ordinance is passed and staff becomes proactive.

Motion made by Bob Coffin to Approve as Do Pass as a First Amendment

Passed For: 3; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Stavros Anthony, Michele Fiore, Bob Coffin;

6. Citizens Participation: Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No subject may be acted upon by the Committee unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come to the podium and give your name and correct spelling for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

None

7. Adjournment

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Outland, Deputy City Clerk

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor

Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway

Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue

City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive