



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Workshop Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner	Mayor
Andrew Neal	Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 4
Pat Shelbourne	Council Member Place 1
Tom Snyder	Council Member Place 2 (Absent with notice)
Lovie Downey	Council Member Place 3
Vacant	Council Member Place 5
Mark Taylor	Council Member Place 6
Jan Hill	Council Member Place 7

and

Linda Proskey	City Secretary
Robert Parker	Police Chief
Kevin Mead	Police Sergeant
Bradley Fraley	Chief Information Officer
Chad Stephens	Interim Director Parks and Recreation
David Berman	City Attorney

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Miner introduced City Manager Joshua Jones and City Attorney David Berman.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Discuss bulk waste, parking, and other code compliance issues.

Police Sergeant Kevin Mead presented this item to the City Council.

Mayor Miner said he put this on the agenda to put teeth into the ordinance not to fine people but for compliance. He hears a lot of complaints on bulk.

Councilmember Taylor believes waiting three times before someone is issued a citation is too long. He wants compliance and believes that twice is enough. Sgt. Mead agreed that two times

would help with those repeat offenders, and since August, he has written ten citations to repeat offenders.

Councilmember Hill agreed with the two times warnings before a citation is issued. She asked if it was more expensive to mail instead of placing a tag on the door. Sgt. Mead said they currently have 420 cases, and 93 are bulk cases. He said with that large of a caseload, it is too time-consuming, and the overall inspections/cases would diminish because they would not be able to focus on all of them.

Mayor Pro Tem Neal asked what their definition is of inoperable. Officer Mead said it is a vehicle that is not running. Mayor Pro Tem Neal asked if the timeline changes for vehicles being repaired. Sgt. Mead said the timeline does not change. Mayor Pro Tem stated that 10 percent of the citizens cause 90 percent of the violations, and he agrees with speeding up the process.

Councilmember Taylor asked about storage and parking of trailers and big trucks on the street and would like to see something done about those, as they are a safety issue. Asked, what is code enforcement doing, and how long are they given to remove them? Sgt. Mead said trailers are 3 hours' notice and handled the same day.

Councilmember Shelbourne wanted to know if there is a way to put the onus on the contractors working on the homes for the bulk trash. Sgt. Mead said that it is something that can be looked into, but ultimately the responsibility falls on the homeowner. He is not sure this could be in an ordinance about an agreement two people make.

Councilmember Hill said that she knows the trailers are coming in after code enforcement hours, and it is difficult to see them at night because they do not have reflectors. Sgt. Mead said that they have the patrol officers to handle these when they get a complaint after hours. They take photographs and try to resolve the issue with the owners.

Councilmember Downey agrees with Councilmember Hill with the trailers waiting until after hours and asked if this was a traffic violation with them sitting on the road. Sgt. Mead said it is a citation. Councilmember Downey said she receives complaints of trailers obstructing views of stop signs and wants to know if we are doing anything proactive on this or only when there is a complaint. Sgt. Mead said it is something addressed through patrols barring call volume. Councilmember Downey said she understands people need them for their jobs but feels it needs to be addressed and agrees with the rest of the council about the need for a more aggressive approach. She also wanted to know how much bulk is due to rentals. Sgt. Mead said he would have to go back and cross-reference the rental permits with the citation. Councilmember Downey asked what obstacles code compliance is facing with rentals and bulk. Sgt. Mead said companies owning the properties are out of state and not there when citations are issued. Councilmember Downey wanted to know how they can bring the rentals in compliance. Sgt. Mead said they could perform abatements, send notices, and put liens on properties.

Mayor Miner thanked the code enforcement officers for the job they do. He agrees with Councilmember Taylor to go to two notices instead of three. He wants recommendations in writing from Code enforcement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Requests for public comment were not received.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

Requests for public testimony were not received.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

APPROVED: this 11th day of April, 2022.

SIGNED: this 11th day of April, 2022.

APPROVED:

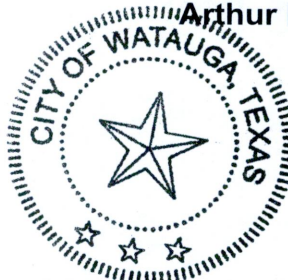
Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Proskey /s/

Linda Proskey, City Secretary



NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office