



CITY OF LIMA
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT
AUGUST 26, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Thompson called the Public Works Committee meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The roll call showed the following members present: Todd Gordon, Carla Thompson

Others in attendance were: Derry Glenn, Jamie Dixon, Mariah Cunningham, Ian Kohli, and Ric Stolly

ITEM OF DISCUSSION

1. Ord. 158-24 An Ordinance enacting Section 412.015 of the Codified Ordinances of Lima regarding the placement of dumpsters.

President Dixon advised the issue was initially referred to Council Committee by Councilor Glenn because there had been several incidents in his ward where roll-off dumpsters placed in public streets which ultimately resulted in an accident. President Dixon advised he authorized legislation be prepared because there has been an increase in the roll-off dumpsters placed on the roadway throughout the City. He explained Mayor was also included in the conversation with himself and the Law Director. He advised their intention was to create legislation that would not impose a burden to residents but would also look out for the safety of drivers. He explained it was brought to his attention that there may be driveways that are shared and yards that are too small for dumpsters to be placed so discussion took place around issuing permits for those who are using dumpsters. Dixon referenced the requirements of flashers or reflective lights that was included in the prepared legislation.

Councilor Thompson agrees the ordinance is needed but she wants to make sure that it is not burdensome or discouraging to individuals who need to make necessary changes to their properties. She referenced various questions as to what department is going to enforce the legislation, who would be cited if the requirements of the legislation were not met, and what time limit is considered

practical for property owners to have the dumpster. Councilor Gordon expressed the need to increase the time limit as 72-hours is not enough time for contractors to get their work done. He explained the contractors are the ones who will know the rules compared to the home owners and they should ultimately be responsible for being fined. Thompson recommended Code Enforcement be responsible for issuing citations so it is not taking up police time. Councilor Glenn expressed this legislation is not hurting anyone's business and all the individual needs to do is put tape reflectors on the dumpster to prevent accidents. He explained adding the tape reflectors to the dumpster instead of flashing lights so it will not cause an increase in renting the dumpster.

Ian Kohli, City Engineer, explained currently dumpsters are permitted under Chapter 1412 which is an older City Code but is what he uses when evaluating requests. He advised they currently issue the permits for dumpsters as barricade permits and a fee of \$20.00. He explained they review the requests for permits to ensure the dumpster cannot be located on the private property first or in an unused alley. He explained if there is a parking lane available, a lot of times the dumpsters are permitted there. He advised the next step would be to block the sidewalk and tree lawn if there is space available and the last step would be to put it in the traveled way. He explained if they are approving the location of the dumpster in the traveled way, they are usually closing down the whole street. He referenced situations where the various non-residential permits that have been issued for dumpsters. He advised he prefers the dumpsters be placed in a parking lane rather than a sidewalk so they are not blocking pedestrians. He advised he doesn't see a lot of cases that they are applying for a permit and putting it in the street if they are able to put it in their private yard. He referenced the Section in 1412 that talks specifically requires warning lights and the language is also included in the permit language. He explained the City does send out occasional letters to the roll-off companies reminding them of what the City's rules are.

Councilor Thompson asked if it would make more sense to amend the current Chapter 1412 or should they be creating a whole new code section. Ian Kohli preferred to amend the current chapter so the information is in one place. Ian advised the time limits in Chapter 1412 is four months with the option to renew. Discussion was held regarding how to determine the length of time the permit is issued for. Mariah Cunningham advised she is not familiar with all of the provisions in Chapter 1412 but agreed the less amount of places that individuals have to look for information is the better option. Glenn advised he is asking for reflective tape to be required and it should not be placed in a no parking area. He referenced the need to enforce against those who do not obtain a permit.

Councilor Thompson thanked President Dixon for the work he and the Law Dir. put in to the legislation. Dixon expressed the need for something to happen soon as dumpsters are popping up all over the City. Thompson recommended the Committee adjourn and schedule a second meeting in a timely fashion. She also requested the Council Clerk submit to all Council members a copy of Chapter 1412

to review so when the committee meets again, they have the suggested amendments.

Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, to recommend Council refer the issue of Chapter 1412 to a Council Committee for review and revision. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Thompson
Public Works Committee Chair
CT:dma