

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

June 29, 2010

4:00 P.M.

Councilman Murphy, Chairman, called the meeting of the Legal and Legislative Committee to order, with Councilpersons Scott, Rico, Benson, Berz, Gilbert, Ladd, Robinson and McGary present. City Attorneys Michael McMahan and Crystal Freiberg and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Mayor Littlefield, Dan Johnson, Richard Beeland, Officer Kennedy, Beverly Johnson, Sandy Coulter, Missy Crutchfield, Paul Page, Danny Thornton, Greta Hayes, Gary Hilbert, Mark Keil, Barry Bennett, Jerry Stewart, Joachim Volz, Bill Payne, Chief Parker, Lee Norris, Steve Leach, Jim Templeton, Bob McGee, Daisy Madison, Randy Ray, Vickie Haley, Tom Dugan, Fredia Kitchen, Simone White, Beverly Cosley, Larry Zehnder and Dickie Hutsell.

On motion of Councilman McGary, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

Chairman Murphy asked if anyone wanted to talk about the Tax Industry Reform Ordinance?

Councilman Rico asked what changes were being made?

Ms. Freiberg responded “a lot”. She stated that there were two main categories. The first refers to different types of ownership; that currently the certificate holder is the owner of the business, and we don’t have privileges or permits that can be transferred; that with the transfer of privileges, the problem is in the Industry—that they have transferred outside of certification, and the new Ordinance will recognize this as a separate thing that you can transfer—that this is a major change.

She also mentioned a major change in criminal records that is changing from three years to ten years—that the major change is if a certificate holder (owner) has more than two felonies, they will be denied; if there are fewer felonies, the Board can take this into consideration; that a driver and privilege holder has to disclose a felony in the past ten years.

Councilman Benson asked if we were going against free enterprise in taking off the cap and was told “no”.

Ms. Freiberg stated that this was the essence in a “capsule”.

Councilman Rico asked about a situation where a certificate holder or owner dies and the son takes over? Ms. Freiberg responded that they were not supposed to do this. Councilman Rico asked if a taxi inspector had gone to this person to check on this? Ms. Freiberg indicated that this would be done.

Chairman Murphy asked if there was anything else that needed to be discussed and if Councilman Rico wanted to bring up Ethics Reform today? Councilman Rico stated not until after we finish with the Budget.

Mayor Littlefield asked if this committee wished to consider Chief Dodd today?

Chairman Murphy indicated that it could be heard in a Committee of the Whole with Councilman Rico or the Public Safety Committee with Councilman Benson.

Mayor Littlefield stated that the Council could schedule this.

Councilman Benson stated that he thought we would handle this matter at tonight's Council meeting.

Councilman McGary stated that he would rather it first be in committee so that the Council could ask questions.

Councilman Benson stated that there could be a special committee meeting and Council members could ask questions of the Chief. Councilman McGary reiterated that he would prefer to ask questions in committee, with Mayor Littlefield stating "but not here".

Councilman Benson stated that he had asked Chief Elect Dodd if he would move into the City, and he said "yes" but that he had asked the Mayor about this, and he said "no".

Mayor Littlefield stated that it was his understanding that he did not plan to move; that he was north of the City about six miles; that Chief Rawlston lived outside the City.

Councilman Benson agreed that it was not a rule but that he had asked him, and he said "yes"; that he would not be able to drive a city car home. Mayor Littlefield agreed that this was not a condition for employment. He went on to say that it was a good idea to wait for another committee since Chief Elect Dodd was not here; that he had been traveling on two hours of sleep, and he had told him to go get some rest; that the Council would have the opportunity to talk with him.

Councilman Benson suggested that questions for him be handed in and that the Public Safety Committee will meet next week with Acting Chief Dodd.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

