

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

August 5, 2008

3:30 P.M.

Councilman Rico, Chairman, called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order, with Councilmen Benson, Berz, Page, Bennett, Shockley, Pierce, Gaines and Robinson present. City Attorney Randall Nelson and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Jim Templeton, Jerry Stewart, Gary Hilbert, Steve Leach, Dennis Malone, Barry Bennett, Karen Hundt, Pam Glaser, Greg Haynes, Dan Johnson, Larry Zehnder, Daisy Madison, Richard Beeland, John VanWinkle, Gene Hyde, Rick Tate, and Paul Patterson.

Adm. Leach noted that we had already gone over agenda items; that truck traffic deals with noise issues, and he was turning his thoughts to Randy Nelson.

Councilwoman Bennett stated that she asked this to be discussed because of an incident on Signal Mtn. Road; that loud brakes are waking people up at 5:00 a.m. and trucks are coming through that are not covered and spreading debris.

Councilwoman Robinson asked who the companies that owned the trucks were?

Councilwoman Bennett wanted to know if there was any legislation in place to take care of this?

Attorney Nelson stated that we have the Noise Ordinance, and we also have an Ordinance requiring trucks to have covers.

Councilwoman Bennett wanted to know if this was police enforcement or who was supposed to enforce this?

Councilman Rico stated that we could say no “jake” brakes.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that if the companies knew, it would be an issue of excess speed and using more fuel; that she thought they would be interested in knowing about their employees, and they could stop this.

Adm. Leach stated that these kind of brakes are built into the trucks.

Attorney Nelson asked if they were coming up the mountain? Councilwoman Bennett stated that there was a lot of truck traffic—dump trucks. Attorney Nelson stated that we could look into speed enforcement or go about it by contacting the company. Councilman Pierce stated that he thought it would be impossible to bring the Noise Ordinance in.

Attorney Nelson agreed that it would be difficult; that the Police Dept. could handle excess speeds and not being covered is enforceable, too. He suggested going to the companies and saying there is a problem and ask them to help us solve it; if we get no cooperation, we can go to the next step.

Councilman Pierce stated in talking about excess speed, you don't have to go that fast to use these brakes.

Attorney Nelson stated that we could talk to John VanWinkle about putting in speed humps.

MOCCASIN BEND STAFF AWARDS

Mr. Stewart stated that their employees were doing good; that our Pre-Treatment Program had been recognized in Knoxville and two of our employees got recognition; that we were the first in the southeast and had been nominated by EPA for a National Award. He noted that an Excellence Award this year went to Rick Tate and that Paul Patterson had also been recognized. He mentioned that our Biosolid Program for Kentucky and Tennessee got the 2008 Award. He stated that he just wanted to let the Council know that they were getting recognized.

Councilwoman Berz stated that she thought this was fabulous!

ODOR ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Mr. Stewart stated that we had started our Odor Assessment downtown—that we were getting complaints from downtown; that last year was a dry year, and we were checking food services establishments and would see what we can do; that they were doing some things down there.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 P.M.