



Code Compliance Committee

Minutes of
May 11, 2016 Meeting

Members present: Peter Kwon (Chair), Rick Forschler
Other Council: Mayor Michael Siefkes
Staff: Acting City Manager Joseph Scorcio; Planning Manager Steve Pilcher

1. Call to Order

Chair Peter Kwon called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of minutes

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 29, 2016 meeting. Passed 2-0.

4. Review of House Bill 2519

Chair Kwon reviewed this bill that was passed during the 2016 legislative session. The bill allows cities to file a \$2000 first priority lien after conducting abatement activities (if abatement costs exceeded \$2000, the residual costs could become a second priority lien).

The Committee expressed its interest in taking abatement actions against repeat offenders and recommended that staff advise individuals of the new law when it notifies a property owner that an abatement action is imminent.

The Committee also noted that King County provides a property tax abatement program for limited income individuals over a defined age. This should be mentioned to individuals to get them to expend funds to take care of their code violations.

There was discussion regarding whether to raise the current fine amount of \$100. Concurrence was the current rate of \$100/day should be maintained, but for it to be additive without the need of daily inspection or citation.

The Committee indicated that staff should first focus on abandoned properties for abatement actions, before addressing occupied properties.

5. Review of Code Compliance Statistics

Planning Manager Steve Pilcher provided a brief overview of the number of code complaints that have been received year-to-date and also, since April 1st.

The Committee asked for staff to analyze all open cases by type and determine what obstacles staff may be finding to getting these cases resolved. Of particular concern is whether staff has the tools it needs.

The Committee also suggested that staff provide more information on the City's web page concerning overall code compliance activities, rather than just information on individual cases.

6. Code Compliance Priorities, etc.

The Committee indicated that before taking any pro-active actions, staff should reduce the number of outstanding open code cases.

Additional information was requested regarding the King County dump voucher program.

There was also discussion about how to best approach the problem area located on 11th Ave. So.

7. Meeting schedule

It was agreed to establish the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. as the regular meeting time for this committee. Should there not be a need to meet, the meeting will be canceled.

8. Adjournment

The meeting then adjourned at 7:08 p.m.