

City of Monroe
Judiciary & Ordinance Review Committee Minutes
June 20, 2016

A. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chairperson Beer called the meeting to order. Members present at roll call were Alderperson Beer, Koch, and Marsh. Alderperson Miller and Bauman, City Attorney Bartholf, Mayor Armstrong, Police Chief Kelley, Fire Chief Rausch, City Clerk Stamm, a reporter from The Monroe Times and public were also present. Alderperson Thoman was absent.

B. CORRECTION OF MINUTES

None

C. BUSINESS

1. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OR REVISING CODE REGARDING REGULATIONS FOR FIRE PITS WITHIN THE CITY.

Alderperson Beer asked Alderperson Bauman to explain this situation as she was the one contacted about the issue. Alderperson Bauman said she was contacted by Justin Laws, city resident, regarding building his own fire pit. It was made from very heavy cement bricks. When she contacted Fire Chief Rausch, she was told that it did not meet code. He sent her information on what was code and she said she did not feel it was very clear as it referred to campfires not fire pits. Mr. Laws spoke on his behalf wondering who determines what is approved and if you make your own fire pit can you have someone come by and look at it and say it is approved. Alderperson Bauman read some more information that Fire Chief Rausch sent her. She said again she was unable to find the information that was needed. Mr. Laws explained that the Police were called to his residence on Saturday because he was having a fire. The Police Officer who came said it was fine. Alderperson Bauman read more of the code aloud. Discussion took place around what a campfire is vs. a fire pit and the wording in the code. Fire Chief Rausch was asked to give his thoughts. He explained the code and what is or is not allowed. More discussion took place with questions and answers between committee members and the Fire Chief. It was decided that Fire Chief Rausch and City Attorney Bartholf will draw up something about a permit process if the fire pit is made rather than purchased as well as adding in fire pit verbiage to help with confusion. They will bring it back to the board for review.

D. BUSINESS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

none

E. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Alderperson Miller and seconded by Alderperson Koch to adjourn. Motion carried.

Nicole M. Cummings, Deputy City Clerk