

City of Monroe
Judiciary & Ordinance Review Committee Minutes
August 17, 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. Alder Bauman, Mayor Armstrong, City Attorney Bartholf, other city employees, Bridget Cooke from The Monroe Times, and citizens were also present. Alternate Alder Thoman was absent.

B. CORRECTION OF MINUTES

None

C. BUSINESS

1. ORDINANCE REPEALING AND RECREATING SECTIONS 9-2-17 AND 9-2-18 OF THE MONROE CITY CODE: ANIMAL POSSESSION EXCEPTION

City Clerk Stamm explained she asked City Attorney Bartholf to change this ordinance mostly due to Park and Receptions events. She said when they bring in farm animals, reptiles, etc they have to have a special events permit. This repeal and recreation would allow any City of Monroe employee to be in exemption of the ordinance while in official city capacity. Discussion took place. Alder Beer made the motion to forward this onto council to set for public hearing. Alder Marsh seconded the motion. Motion carried on voice vote.

2. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ORDINANCES TO ELECT ALDERPERSONS AT LARGE OR ADDITIONAL ALDERPERSONS AT LARGE

Attorney Bartholf explained he came up with two versions. The first is to operate as normal and add two new at large members. Questions and discussion took place. In option two all 11 Alders would be elected at large. Discussion took place. Alder Bauman said her intent when she brought it to Council was to go to all Alders at large. She said in her research she has found most cities our size have Alders at large and the larger cities have Aldermanic districts. Alder Beer said she prefers the hybrid option where you have Aldermanic wards and Alders at large. The Mayor spoke. He said the main driving factor behind looking at this is there has not been a great showing at elections. The second is the number of people on committees. He thinks it should stay at 9 Alders rather than go to 11 Alders. He also would like to put all committees at 4 members and do away with the alternate. Alder Bauman questioned what happens if there is a tie? She said in the past when that happened the issue would then die and not go anywhere. Clerk Stamm said it could be written in the code that if a tie happens the issue would then go to the full council. Discussion took place. Citizen Laverne Isley spoke. He feels every ward should have its own Alder because when there was a drug problem near him it took lots of people and the Alder to get rid of the problem. More discussion took place. It was said that all decisions are made for the good of the entire city not just a particular ward. A lot of the Alders are contacted by people who live in other wards and they handle the issue rather than referring them to the Alder for the ward they live in. More discussion took place. Alder Marsh made the motion for 11 Alder person at large basis and to pass to council. Discussion took place. Beer feels that the full council needs to make input on both options rather than just sending one option to them. Discussion took place. Alder Marsh withdrew his motion. Alder Koch made a motion to advance both ordinance options to council with the recommendation that they

feel it should go to at large entirely. Alder Marsh seconded the motion. Discussion took place. Motion carried on voice vote with all Alders except Beer for it.

D. BUSINESS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

none

E. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Alderperson Koch to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderperson Marsh. Motion carried.

Nicole M. Cummings, Deputy City Clerk