
DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 03/06/2024

6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

IN ATTENDANCE

Officer Jadin Moldenhauer, Brad Boyce, Diego Saenz, Kathy Engebretsen, Carole Kantor, Daryl Sherman, Marie Trest, Tom Huber, Lisa Grueneberg, Jake Dean, Dennis Trest, Marcia Diamond, Alder Tag Evers, Shawn Schey, Laura Checovich, Josh Napravnik

PROCEDURAL

- Call to Order: 6:45 p.m.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the agenda.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the February meeting minutes.

ALDER'S REPORT

Tag was asked by Josh for updates on zoning changes re: the changes in the family definition and how TOD has played out since last year. Tag didn't have the data yet but will get them to Josh and Diego soon.

The Common Council is working on the budget. There's a \$27,000,000 deficit. To balance it, there may be a reduction in services along with lots of layoffs. One referendum posed would ask we go over the levy limit. Can't do a sales tax. Wisconsin depends on property taxes more than anything else to generate revenue. If households pay \$1.00 more per day, that would do it.

Tag is working with the Board of Health on issues regarding dogs attacking people and other dogs. Fines are \$500 for the owners of such dogs, but there is nothing to address future behavior. He'd like to get the code changed so dogs that have bitten people must be leashed or fenced-in on their premises, and muzzled if out and about.

Proposed changes to ADUs: the code changes last year reduced red tape, but landlords are contacting the city and pushing for not having to live on the property. This would mean neither the main house nor the ADU would have to be owner-occupied. So far, ADUs are not being built for rental but for mother-in-laws and boomerang children. He doesn't think this change will open up the floodgates to out-of-town speculators.

See the discussion about this topic further down.

MEET OFFICER MOLDENHAUER

He grew up in Dane County, got his bachelor degree in Criminal Justice, lives in Madison now. If we have concerns, email him at JMoldenhauer2@cityofmadison.com. It will take him a few days to respond. You can also call 608-640-0164. Dennis mentioned that the curbside lanes of

Monroe Street handle traffic at high speeds during rush hour, and he's wondering if there could be enforcement to control that. Jadin said that will get some attention. There is a traffic enforcement team, but only 4-5 officers for the whole city. Laura asked if his department makes traffic calming recommendations, and how do we all officially interact with each other to make safety changes. Jadin said he doesn't talk to Traffic Engineering himself, but will route concerns to his lieutenant. Timing the lights doesn't work on Monroe. As far as buses and traffic calming, he doesn't know what the city is planning regarding peds waiting for buses safely. He said there are a ton of signs at the midtown police station for terraces that urge drivers to slow down, and folks should go there to get them.

TREASURER'S REPORT

February income was \$559.82. Dennis opened two CD's and has garnered \$45.82 in interest so far. The total membership is 770 now. The report was accepted.

DISCUSSION ON ADUs

Josh reported that Tag advocated owner-occupied ADUs last year because of fears that two sets of renters on one property would become problematic. But only seven total ADUs have been permitted in the last six years because they are proving too expensive for people to build them. However, this would allow apartment buildings with dilapidated garages to be renovated into ADUs. Marie said the rules for duplexes are more broad and don't require owner-occupancy, so why should ADUs? Josh said the average price for homes selling in DM is \$375.00/sq ft. The average of selling prices is now \$650,000. Diego reported that the Vilas Neighborhood Association asked if DM has an opinion on this ADU change yet. They don't either. Dennis said this feels like a bait-and-switch. Owner-occupancy was a criteria to get the new law passed last year, and on principle, he finds this troubling. Josh agreed and said that the city should mandate something for a longer period of time (say, 15 years) instead of incrementally changing things every year or so.

In all of Madison, here are the number of ADU permits requested:

2018 and 2019 – 1 each year
2021 – 2
2022 – 3

This goes to the Plan Commission in five days, and the Common Council March 19th.

SOCIAL EVENT

On March 16th, go to Camp Cantina for \$1.00 tacos. If you have an idea for a new social event, let Diego know.

STORAGE UNIT

Extra Space Storage for \$50/month would allow us to store DM materials instead of having them in various peoples' attics and garages. It's indoor, and there is a lock with three keys available. If you prepay for two years, there's a discount. Tom moved that we get a 10x10 unit, and Josh seconded. Dennis has four record boxes. There are boxes in a closet at Wingra School, and Lisa has five boxes, Kathy two. Gardening tools are currently being stored in the trailer. Could get

metal shelving units for the storage unit. Diego amended Tom's motion to include that we also buy the shelving units. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNUAL MEETING

Marie and Diego are working on the tech needs for this. It will take place on Saturday, April 13th from 2:00-4:00.

- Lisa moved to adjourn. Carole seconded.
- *Minutes respectfully submitted by Shawn Schey.*