



OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
VILLAGE GREEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUESDAY
November 17, 2020
6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE:

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Those present included: Melissa Riggins, Heather Karr, Daniel Swartwout (Chairman), Jon C. Bennehoof, Frank Bertone, Councilmembers; Heather Gonzalez and Ryan Herchenroether, Citizen Representatives; Andrew White, City Manager; Stephen Hrytzik, Chief of Police; Megan Canavan, Assistant City Manager; Jeff Tyler, Community Development Director; Aaron Scott, Assistant City Engineer; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk; and other interested parties.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of October 20, 2020 were approved as written.

NEW ITEMS:

- DORA Update and Should it be Extended Beyond 12/31/2020: Andy advocated for extending the DORA beyond December 31st based on how successful it has been this year, as well as through the request of businesses, and recommendation of Staff. Staff would like direction on whether to make it a mainstay of the community. Chairman Swartwout added that its original concept was for an event-driven DORA, but it has been used as more of Friday through Sunday running commitment instead and this has worked well. The current legislation is flexible to allow it to be set up this way, but it may need to be tweaked if the City wishes to move it from event-driven to permanent.

ACTION ITEM: The Committee recommended continuing the DORA in its current form through at least the end of March 2021 when there is hopefully a better handle on the pandemic. At that time, this could be revisited, as well as revisiting any possible changes that may needed to be made to the legislation to make it a perpetual tool.

- Community Attitude Survey: This is normally done every two years on even years. Megan said the last one was done in 2018. She will meet with the Saperstein & Associates who is the company the City has used since 2008. She seeks direction as to whether this is a priority for 2021 and if she should bring in Saperstein & Associates to the next meeting to draft survey questions. The cost is budgeted in whole for 2021. Heather Gonzalez questioned if it might be more cost efficient and accurate to conduct the survey online instead of a telephone call. There was another question about if it was necessary to conduct the survey every 2 years or if it could be done at longer intervals.

ACTION ITEM: Staff was directed to set up a telephone call with Marty Saperstein to answer some of the outstanding questions about a time line, the value of the survey, method of conducting the survey, etc. Frank, Ryan, Andy and Dan volunteered be part of a subcommittee to meet with Marty. Staff can then provide information from that call to the Committee at the next meeting.

- Proposed Community Diversity Advisory Committee – Defining its Role: With the recent legislation that was passed by Council, it is time to establish the charge of the newly formed Diversity Advisory Committee as set out in Section 3 of the Resolution. Heather Karr said that she would like to find members, has some people already interested in being a committee member, and looks to filling the entire committee by the first of the year. She would like to keep the charge open-ended so that the group could work on a variety of issues. Melissa asked numerous questions as to such as how many members would the committee be comprised of and how many would be Council members? Heather suggested transitioning some of the Advisory Committee members from the Police Department.

ACTION ITEM: This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

- Small Business Program Update: Andy said there has been a good response and he expects that will continue moving forward. Megan said that there were 19 total applications submitted so far, 16 applications were from within the City limits and from a variety of businesses. The CIC met last week for the first time to review the initial applications and will meet again next Tuesday.
- Winter Market/Holidays in Powell Update: Due to spike in Covid-19 cases, the proposed November 21st event date has been postponed.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.