

Zoning and Annexation Committee Meeting Minutes

Council Chambers, John Knisely Centre

September 25, 2017

The Zoning and Annexation Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Committee members in attendance were Mr. Darrin Lautenschleger, Mrs. Aimee May, and Mrs. Cheryl Ramos, Committee Chair. Also in attendance: Sam Hitchcock (Council President), Dean Holland, Kelly Ricklic, and John Zucal (Council members); Mayor Joel B. Day, Council Clerk Julie Courtright, Service Director Ron McAbier, Greg Popham (Safety Director), Marvin Fete (Law Director), and Dan Lanzer (resident).

PURPOSE: To consider proposed Ordinance 16-2017 - changing the mandatory minimum height for fences around existing swimming pools from not less than five feet in height to not less than four feet in height and any other matter to come before the committee.

The Chair reviewed information requested by Councilman John Zucal in regards to how property owners would be affected by this proposed change. The Chair had called her insurance agent and was told that insurance varies by company and property owner situations. The Ohio Insurance Commission regulates coverage requirements. The City would have no liability. The liability would be the property owners' responsibility. The Chair had also asked the Law Director about "existing" in the proposed Ordinance language i.e. would future pools be covered as well. He had confirmed that "existing" did not matter, only Section 1 of the Ordinance became codified.

The Chair noted that she was reticent to lower the pool height requirement due to safety concerns. The request had been brought forward because residents had requested change so pools from big box stores could be purchased. She further stated that Mr. Scolati (Building Code Administrator) had previously noted that the five foot were available but limited in style.

Mrs. May asked why we were considering revision and if it was updating due to other cities had a no less than four foot height requirement. The Chair noted that Mr. Scolati had reported that only New Philadelphia and Zanesville had the five foot requirement and that residents had requested the change due to what pools were offered in the big box stores. He had emailed today that more residents were asking when the height requirement would be lowered. Ron McAbier stated that Dover requires no less than four feet.

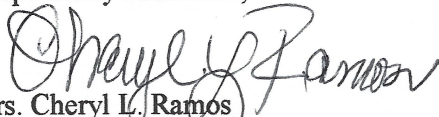
Dean Holland asked why this had been brought to the forefront. The Chair explained that Mr. Scolati had asked for a change due to resident requests to purchase pools that were no less than four feet height and available in big box stores. Mr. Holland asked if we knew how many residents. The Chair, Mr. Lautenschleger, and Mr. McAbier said several (more than two) and we don't know any exact number. Mr. Holland was wondering why we were spending time on this. The Chair said resident request and that per Mr. Scolati; no one particular resident has requested a change.

Mrs. May asked if Mr. McAbier had any issues. He said no and that the no less than four feet is what is required by the International Property Management Code.

Mr. Lautenschleger moved that proposed Ordinance 16-2017 be placed on the next Council meeting agenda and be read for three readings. Motion seconded by Mrs. May. All voted yes.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. May at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mrs. Cheryl L. Ramos
Chairwoman

An audio recording of this meeting is available from the Council Clerk.