

April 8, 2014 Environmental Committee Notes

Committee: Bill Taylor, Chairman
Maria Bucci
Nick Cutri
Karen White - absent

1. Floodplain Insurance Update – Over the last couple of months the issue of flood insurance premiums, how those premiums are calculated and how the City government might be able to help residents affected has come to the attention of Council. Councilwoman Bucci informed Council through an informational primer on the subject and is leading an effort to understand the issue and how it affects City residents. A public informational meeting was held on March 29th that was attended by several residents and residents agreed to continue researching this complicated issue through future meetings. Flood Insurance premiums affect many City residents as well as the overall economy, so if anyone is interested in participating in this effort please contact Councilwoman Bucci.
2. “I Love My Parks Day” – May 3rd is I love My Parks Day and the City will be participating through a Cleanup Project in Lagoon Park this Saturday beginning at 10:00 A.M. The project entails cleaning up brush. Participants are encouraged to bring their own gloves and safety goggles.
3. Snow Removal Policy – Council discussed if any changes should be made to the existing ordinance concerning sidewalk snow removal. The existing policy is to mail a copy of the policy to residents with the water and sewer bills during the fall. It was decided to continue this effort to inform residents. Additionally, DPW will give residents that are in violation of the ordinance, one complaint driven warning notice stating that a second violation will result in a monetary charge.
4. Policy concerning Restricted Use of Parkland and Adequate Consideration – This was a continuation of the discussion concerning adequate consideration for the exclusive use of parking spaces at Lakefront and Kershaw Park. Council had a lively discussion concerning what adequate consideration was but did not reach a consensus so it was decided to consider each application individually and on its own merits.
5. LL Bean proposal for exclusive use of parking spaces for its 2014 Outdoor Adventures. Councilman Taylor recused himself from the discussion and vote due to his employment at LL Bean. The committee decided that adequate compensation for the exclusive use of 3 or 4 parking spaces in the Lakefront parking lot, to park a trailer, is appropriate in the amount of \$8/day per space from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend and \$4/day per space after Labor Day weekend through Columbus Day (10/13). This resolution is before Council tonight.

General Updates: Council was brought up to date on several ongoing subjects that will appear before the Committee and Council for action in the future. Stay tuned.

The next environmental Committee meeting will be May 13th at the Hurley Building.