

**SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 25, 2018**

The Safety, Health, and Service Committee met Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers at the Knisely Centre.

In attendance were Safety, Health, and Service Committee Members:  
Chair, Mr. Kelly Ricklic  
Mr. Dan Lanzer  
Mr. Rob Maurer  
Alternate: Mr. Dean Holland

Guests were:  
President of Council Sam Hitchcock, Councilperson Aimee May, Service Director Ron McAbier, Safety Director Greg Popham, Mr. Dan Lanzer, Mr. John Zucal, Council Clerk Julie Courtright, Law Director Marvin Fete, Ed Streb, Mr. Bill Sturtz

Committee Chair Mr. Ricklic reported that the Safety, Health, and Service Committee met Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Knisely Centre to discuss the following items:

- Codified Ordinance 905.02 concerning dead or dangerous trees.
- The proposed use of golf carts as vehicles in the City.

Mr. Ricklic made the following statement:

Concerning Codified Ordinance 905.02, Mr. Streb, who is present tonight had me come to his house to look at a tree. Mr. McAbier had currently assessed it as well as Mike Scolati. The Codified Ordinance specifies that the tree has to pose a hazard or a danger and must be removed within 30 days.

Ed Streb of 7015 N. Broadway made the following statement:

(Mr. Streb gave handouts to Council and Administration) He said his problem has been building up for some time. Mr. Streb says a property beside him has weeds, high grass, trash and an 80 foot tall ash tree that is dead. He said the tree will probably fall soon and it's aiming toward his property. I really would like to get your help in cleaning that property up and doing something about that tree.

Council and Administration Discussed the Dead and Dangerous Tree.

Law Director Fete made the following statement:

The problem with the current ordinance was there were no "teeth" to it. In the new ordinance if the tree isn't removed within 30 days the City can do it and charge the property owner.

Mr. Ricklic made the following statement:

I think the City should evaluate the tree then going by the current ordinance send the property owner a notice, after we can say it is a dead and dangerous tree. Administration should decide if they would bring an arborist in.

Mr. Zucal made the following statement:

I think this tree meets the criteria of being a dead or dangerous tree and could damage Mr. Streb's or another neighbor's property if it were to fall. I agree with Mr. Streb's concern.

Mr. Popham had the following comment:

Possibly a professional tree trimmer would be easier to get than an arborist.

**Law Director Fete had the following comment:**

I'm concerned that we're talking about applying the ordinance selectively, which is a violation of laws. I don't know if we want to be in the business of policing people's properties to that extent.

**Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:**

I'm addressing the current ordinance in place. I don't want to decide on a new ordinance when there has been a complaint provided to us.

**Mr. Zucal had the following comment:**

The ordinance has to clearly say the tree is "dead or in bad condition".

**Mayor Day had the following comment:**

Let's have the Director of Public Service send a letter to the neighbor and see where we go from there.

**Mr. Ricklic had the following statement:**

The next issue before Committee is the proposed use of golf carts as vehicles in the City.

- **Mr. Ricklic have Council and Administration a handout that had the statistics of accidents from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**

**Mr. Ricklic made the following statement:**

The police feel that with the accidents they have in that area adding golf carts to the roadway would pose as another serious accident device on the road. EMTs feel that they would need more EMT workers because the accident rates would go up considerably.

**Mr. Sturtz made the following statement:**

It's expensive to have a golf cart license and insurance.

**Mr. Maurer made the following statement:**

Golf carts would definitely need to stay off state routes.

**Mr. Holland made the following statement:**

This would be a change, but New Philadelphia is becoming a City known for change, for example the Mayor's initiative to create a "smart City". The Mayor is also currently in discussion with Kent State to televise Council Meetings.

**Mr. Fete had the following comment:**

Those little carts that people drive, you could get those as an alternative.

**Mayor Day had the following comment:**

This could be something we consider in different housing allotments like on the Southside or off University Drive.

**MR. RICKLIC MADE A MOTION TO TAKE THIS ISSUE TO ANOTHER BODY AND BRING IT  
BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION  
MR. MAURER SECONDED THE MOTION  
3 YEAS  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Ricklic made the following statement:**

I will get with the Mayor and invite the Fire Chief and other officials to discuss the matter.

**With no other matters to come before Committee Mr. Lanzer Motioned to Adjourn.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Kelly Ricklic, Committee Chairman, Safety, Health, and Service**