

Safety Health & Service Committee Meeting

Monday, September 8, 2003

The Safety Health and Service Committee met in council chambers at 6:45 P.M. to discuss Ordinance 44-2003, a proposal by the Service Director to amend section 1167.07B of the New Philadelphia Codified Ordinances to allow gasoline stations to be permitted a total storage of 100,000 gallons of fuel, lubricating oil and/or gasoline. Present at the meeting were committee members Rob Maurer, Art Cicconetti and Chairman Sam Hitchcock. Guests presents were Councilwoman Sandy Cox, Councilman Joel Day, Service Director Gary Espenschied, Fire Captain Dan Fait, Mayor Ron Brodzinski, Citizen Ella Slough and the media.

Gary Espenschied explained that his request was intended to bring the ordinance up to date and in line with capacity allowances of other communities. He passed out to members of the committee a copy of a letter his office received from Sheetz, Inc. , a new service station soon to be located in the west end of town. The letter was requesting permission for an immediate capacity of 65,000 gallons of fuel storage with a possible increase sometime in the future. Gary stated that his assistant, Jim Zucal, who had received the Sheetz letter, had recommended an ordinance increase of 80,000 gallons. Gary suggested that the committee approve and recommend the 100,000 gallon request so that the ordinance would have longevity and not require another update in the near future.

Chairman Hitchcock told the committee that he had contacted the State Fire Marshall's Office and had talked to Peter Chase who is the Chief of the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations. Hitchcock said that he explained the request to Chase and asked if the committee should have any concerns. Chase said that there were no size limitations regarding capacity under the Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-9 provided that the systems are installed and maintained in an appropriate manner. Hitchcock gave members a copy of Chase's letter stating that opinion.

Hitchcock then asked Captain Dan Fait if he felt there were any safety concerns with the increased volumes and Fait said that state regulations were in place to control any safety or environmental concerns. With no further discussion of the matter noted, Rob Maurer made a motion that the committee recommend passage of the ordinance section in it's present form. Art Cicconetti seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor of the ordinance.

At 7:00 P.M., with no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam R. Hitchcock, Chairman
SAFETY, HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE
CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA