

**Town of Fenwick Island
Minutes of the Charter & Ordinance Committee Meeting
June 3, 2014**

Call to Order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Committee Members Bill Weistling, Gene Langan, Roy Williams, Ben Waide, Diane Tingle, Mike Quinn , Merritt Burke and Pat Schuchman

Absent: Winnie Lewis

Public in Attendance: None.

Minutes:

- Diane Tingle made a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2014 seconded by Ben Waide. Mike Quinn abstained. Motion passed.

Issues for Discussion & Possible Action:

- Bill Weistling began discussion on Chapter 112 regarding vehicle signs on commercial properties.
- This request for consideration at the Charter & Ordinance Committee meeting originated at the May Parking Committee meeting. The C&O and Town Council members both discussed at their respective meetings in May and agreed that a draft amendment was needed to change the ordinance which would prohibit certain vehicles parked on commercial properties.
- Mike Quinn commented this particular change is directed at only one commercial business in Town and questioned whether a change in ordinance is necessary.
- Bill answered that currently there are at least three businesses in Town that have vehicles in front of their business whose primary purpose is to advertise their business. Ropewalk's panel truck is located on the vacant Nichol's lot.
- Bill referenced the San Francisco ordinance as a model and said the San Francisco would consider the Ropewalk vehicle whose primary use is that of a sign.
- The Town Attorney, Mary Schrider-Fox, has reviewed both the model ordinances from San Francisco and Miami and said that the Town could prohibit such vehicles with the enforcement of this ordinance the responsibility and at the discretion of the Fenwick Island Police Department.
- Chief Boyden would relay guidelines for enforcement to his officers.
- Bill reminded all that Town Council directed the Charter & Ordinance Committee to create a draft amendment to Chapter 112 that would prohibit the use of vehicles primarily as a sign on commercial properties.
- The draft will include parking spaces in commercial zone as well as parking on public streets. This would not include enforcement on private residential properties.
- After some discussion it was agreed that this prohibition would be enforced year round with any request for a temporary exception from October 1 through May 1. Chief Boyden would have the discretion to approve a temporary exception.
- The draft will be presented to Town Council at the June Town Council Meeting under items for discussion. Included in the draft will be a new definition of vehicle sign and a designation of commercial vehicle sign.
- If in agreement, the draft will be presented as a proposed first reading at the July Town Council Meeting.
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- The next item for discussion was Chapter 116 regarding special events permits.
- At the last Town Council meeting there was discussion on the issuance of special events permits. Currently such a permit is required only for those planned on public streets or property.

- The need to require a permit for activities held on commercial properties came to the Town's attention when Ropewalk asked for permission for their oyster fest.
- The police department was concerned that no provisions were required for police coverage should the event had attracted a large number of attendees.
- The amendment would be to add to Chapter 116-10A public and commercial properties required for 75 or more people.
- At the May Town Council meeting the Charter & Ordinance Committee was also directed to create a draft ordinance amendment.
- This will also be placed on the June Town Council Meeting agenda under items for discussion.

Comprehensive Plan:

- Charter & Ordinance continues to make changes to Town ordinances as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
- Discussion as follows:
 - Chapter 112 – Vehicles Signs on Commercial Properties
 - Chapter 116 – Special Events Permits

Old:

None

New:

None

Adjourn:

- Gene Langan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Diane Tingle. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.