



City of Mentor-on-the-Lake

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**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
CITY OF MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE
NOVEMBER 12th, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

The Regular Meeting of Council for the city of Mentor-on-the-Lake was called to order on November 12th 2024, at 7:00 pm by Council President Rob Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

| | | |
|-----|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Aye | Ward 4: | DESIREA THOMPSON, Vice President |
| Aye | At Large: | MICHELLE MOORE (absent) |
| Aye | Ward 2: | SKIP GRAY |
| Aye | At Large: | KEVIN BITTNER (absent) |
| Aye | Ward 1: | JEANNIE WONG |
| Aye | At Large: | JIM LUNDER |
| Aye | Ward 3: | ROB JOHNSON, President |

READING OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting of Council- October 22nd, 2024

MOTION MADE BY MRS. THOMPSON, Seconded by Mr. Gray, for approval of the minutes. **ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Council Members Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson.

MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

CORRESPONDENCE: (none)

7:01 P.M EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL:

MOTION MADE BY MRS. THOMPSON, Seconded by Ms. Wong, for Council to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. **ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Council Members Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson.

MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

7:09 P.M. COUNCIL RECONVENED. **ROLL CALL:** Council Member Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson. **All present.**

ADMINISTRATIVE AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mayor and Safety Director – Mr. Eva

Mayor Eva announced that Mr. Lyons will be leaving at the end of the year and there will be an RFP out for a new Law Director. Mayor Eva also informed Tim Lannon from CT that we will be doing an RFP for City

Engineer. At this point Mentor City Council is not interested in any type of agreement for Mentor Beach Park. Mayor Eva then read the Fire Department report for October; it will be included in the minutes.

Administrative Director – Ms. Martin

Ms. Martin read her report; it will be included in the meeting minutes.

Law Director – Mr. Lyons

Mr. Lyons restated that he asked Mayor Eva to not re-up him for the upcoming year and that he appreciated the opportunity over the years.

QUESTIONS TO ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Ms. Wong asked when the feral cat meeting would be and Ms. Martin said January 22nd at 7:00 P.M. Mr. Johnson asked if there has been effort beyond the communication/education portion of it vs. the administration portion of it in terms of keeping track of the colonies. Mr. Johnson said that the Ordinance Committee did a great job getting ideas together of what can be done and wanted to know if administration is making any effort to fix the problem, more than education as education will only go so far for those that come to the meeting. Ms. Martin said that the education- if you follow the plan, is the solution. Mr. Johnson responded that we have not been recording the colonies or following what the Ordinance requires us to do. Mayor Eva said that they recently got a report of the colonies and Mr. Johnson said that he wanted to know the numbers of the colonies and how many cats exist and they will have a plan from the administration as to how they are going to administer the solution beyond education. Mayor Eva said that he would like to wait until January because he attended one of these sessions in Wickliffe years ago and there were different solutions, as well as different people that tended to the colonies that had ideas. Ms. Martin said that they chose January 22nd because it is right before cat season and it will be fresh in their minds.

Mr. Johnson said that there was a lack in communication regarding the email transfer going to outlook 365. Council found out when they checked their email that their passwords changed and they were not informed ahead of time that this was going to happen. Vice President Thompson messaged to let the rest of Council know what was going on because there was zero communication from administration. They keep talking about how council and administration need to communicate better so there should have been a process by which they talked about transferring the emails ahead of time. Mrs. Moore still cannot access her email. Ms. Martin said that Mrs. Moore can communicate with her as well and contact her so she can help her with the email. Mr. Lunder suggested that they have a meeting prior to the website switching over so they can go over what is going to happen and Mayor Eva agreed.

BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Zoning Committee / October 28th, 2024 / Mr. Lunder

Mr. Lunder read the Zoning Committee report; the meeting notes are attached to the minutes.

Parks and Recreation Board / October 29th, 2024 / Ms. Wong

Ms. Wong read the Parks and Recreation Board report; the meeting notes are attached to the minutes.

Envision Steering Committee / November 7th, 2024 / Mrs. Thompson

Mrs. Thompson read the Envision Steering Committee report; the meeting notes are attached to the minutes.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK: 7:27 P.M.- 7:32 P.M.

Kathy Allen 5438 Granada Drive. Ms. Allen wanted to address an issue with her neighbor- he has a giant political flag with profanities. She reached out to Council via email asking if there is anything that can be done and she was told that the first amendment protects free speech. Ms. Allen asked if there was an Ordinance about political signs since the election is now over. There is a case law that she looked into about profanities on signs when it involves children seeing the sign, she sent it to council wanting to know if this is something that can be done. Mr. Johnson turned the question to Mr. Lyons and he said that there are exceptions, but only when it is with business, not residential and it is not illegal. Recently the Supreme Court had a case about signs with a church and the decision was if you had to read the words on the signs, then it violates the first amendment. Mr. Lyons said if the city tried to cite this person, it would be taken to court and there would be a trial but the judge would throw it out. Mr. Lyons said that he will read the case that Ms. Allen sent and will email her to let her know that he read it and what he thinks. Ms. Wong asked if Mr. Lyons was familiar with the City of Mentor's sign Ordinance 1171.20 that regulates signs in residential districts and if that was legal; he said he was not familiar. Mr. Lunder said that he drove by the property and it was questionable if it was in the right away or not and that Mr. Snyder should check that out. Ms. Allen said that one of the members of the Yacht Club asked if the neighbor could take the sign down and he agreed but it is still up.

LEGISLATION BEFORE COUNCIL:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-18 (SECOND READING) (REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE)
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2024-O-06 IN ORDER TO UPDATE THE RETIRE-
REHIRE REGULATIONS FOR CITY EMPLOYEES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This ordinance was sent to third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-20 (SECOND READING) (REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE)
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CODE BY CREATING NEW CHAPTER 1270 OF
THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES FOR THE REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN THE
CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This ordinance is still in the Ordinance Committee.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-22
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCES 452.01, 452.17 AND 452.99 AND
REPEALING ORDINANCES 452.02 AND 452.03 RELATING TO PARKING ON THE STREETS

Ms. Wong addressed the council regarding this Ordinance; her correspondence will be added to the minutes.

Mayor Eva read comments that Chief Forsythe had regarding the amendments to the Ordinance. The committee will review; the correspondence will be added to the minutes.

This ordinance was sent back to the Ordinance Committee for review.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-23

AN ORDINANCE CREATING CODIFIED ORDINANCE 648.15 – NOISE

Ms. Wong addressed the council regarding this Ordinance; her correspondence will be added to the minutes.

This ordinance was sent to second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-24

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCES 212.01 – POSTING PLACES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This ordinance was sent to second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-25

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE, OHIO, FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

MOTION MADE BY MRS. THOMPSON, Seconded by Mr. Lunder, for Suspension of the Rules. ROLL

CALL: Ayes: Council Member Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

MOTION MADE BY MR. LUNDER, Seconded by Mrs. Thompson, for Passage of Ordinance NO. 2024-O-25

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Council Member Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Eva said that Ryan Smalley from Envision will be contacting businesses. One of the businesses they will be talking with is David Knott on Munson Road. Mayor Eva had a conversation with Mr. Knott and he feels as though he has exhausted all retail opportunities and the best thing that he can do is look into residential. Mr. Knott told Mayor Eva that he did not get a good vibe from council the last time. Mr. Johnson said that his marketing is not doing well because he cannot find his properties when he looks online and the signs are his own company and he does not feel like Mr. Knott has exhausted all of his efforts. Ms. Wong said that the residential idea would be a major zoning change and she does not think they should make a change without a plan. Mayor Eva said that the zoning committee talked about putting the Marijuana Dispensary on the ballot Mr. Lyons said that one way they could go about that would be a charter review, or if a group of citizens got together and had a petition, but they would need a certain number of signatures.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK: 8:08 P.M. – 8:09 P.M.

Paul Morris 7592 Pinehurst Drive. Mr. Morris wanted to thank Mr. Lyons for his service to our city.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SETTINGS OF MEETINGS:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Parks and Recreation Board | Thursday, November 14 th , 2024 at 6:30 P.M. |
| Ordinance Committee | Tuesday, November 19 th , 2024 at 6:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M. |
| Public Engagement Envision Meeting | Thursday, November 21 st , 2024 at 6:30 P.M. |
| Parks and Recreation Committee | Thursday, December 12 th , 2024 at 6:30 P.M. |
| Organizational Meeting of Council | Tuesday, January 7 th , 2025 at 7:00 P.M. |
| Envision Steering Meeting | Thursday, January 9 th , 2025 at 7:00 P.M. |

ADJOURNMENT:


MOTION MADE BY MRS. THOMPSON, Seconded by Mr. Gray, for Adjournment. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Council Member Thompson, Gray, Wong, Lunder, Johnson. Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

The next **REGULAR AGENDA MEETING** will be held on
Thursday, November 21st, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

The next **REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL** will be held on
Tuesday, November 26th, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVED:

12/6/2024
Date



ROBERT JOHNSON
President of Council

Attest: 

Clerk of Council



Fire Dept.'s Monthly Report October, 2024

For the month of October, 2024, there were a total of 95 calls for service.

The call breakdown was as follows:

22 Fire / Service calls.

73 Rescue / EMS calls. Of those 73 calls, there were:

6 calls for Invalid assist.

0 calls for an overdose requiring Narcan.

Dept. Training October, 2024

EMS drills presented by U.H. Lake Health.

Topic was: Stroke

Department shift drills for the month of October

E.M.S. – Hypothermic Patient

Fire – Community Outreach

Hands On Job Performance Requirements – completion of 2024 hose testing

Dept. Activity October, 2024

In October, the Fire Dept. held our annual safety forces open house. We were also pleased to participate in the Police department and Lake Elementary's Trunk or Treat event.

Annual maintenance was completed on the department's two power cots as well as the power load systems.

Ale Haus 7877 Munson

Suppression Testing

Breakwall Tavern

Suppression Testing

Administrative Announcement

November 12, 2024

- The initial proposal for the Overlook Beach project submitted by engineering firm CEC has been received and they have begun working on getting the survey reduced and into the basemap. This will allow them to calculate the approximate volumes of material.
- On Monday, October 28th, an Engineering RFQ was posted in the News Herald. The cut off to respond is November 18th.
- The Construction bid for Southland Road Drainage System has been posted. The day to receive bids is November 15th.
- Per your request on what the administration would like to see in a short-term rental, I made copies of Mayfield Villages Ordinance, Chapter 772 and put them in your mailboxes. After much research, I found this ordinance to have a direct, common-sense approach that covers the incidentals residents may be worried about.
- On the agenda, Ordinance 2024-O-2025 is a yearly renewal. The only changes I made were adding 244 - the Parks and Rec Levy and I increased the 332 Stormwater grant total because we have the Southland bid going on.

- Comprehensive plan door-to-door survey
1/2 complete
- Community Calendar is not connected to the website. We have a ticket in w/ IT

Zoning Meeting 10/28/2024

Start: 6:15 pm

End: 7:07 pm

Committee Members

Jim Lunder

Michelle Moore

Jennie Wong

Others Attending

Chuck Snyder

Rob Johnson

Skip Gray

We discussed the possibility of a Marijuana Business in the city. There is only one area in the D2 business district, and that is on Munson Rd. After further discussion, we decided to ask the council to extend the moratorium due to expire in November 2024. It was also recommended to extend the moratorium until December 2025.

Another business brought to the committee was 1280.05 driveway material. Also discussed is if a resident wants to replace their driveway it should be of the same material or upgrade to a better material. IE Gravel to Asphalt or Concrete but you cannot go backwards. Concrete to Asphalt or Gravel. We moved this to another meeting for further discussion.

**11/12/2024 Council Meeting Report on
Parks & Rec Board Meeting 10/29/2024**

The Parks and Rec Board met on Tuesday, October 29 at 6:33 pm.

All Board Members except Roos were in attendance. One position remains vacant. Mayor Eva, Ms. Ice, Council Vice-President Thompson also attended, along with several members of the Public.

Vice-Chair Position: Following formal nomination and vote, the Vice-Chair vacancy was filled for the remainder of this year by Tess Turi. Congratulations, Vice-Chair Turi!

Lake Overlook Beach Park: The Administration has contacted outside engineering firms, seeking a phased plan for bluff protection and beach access, followed by Park improvements. Project funding will come from the 2023 Tax Levy, supplemented by low-interest Special Improvement District Loans. There are no plans to involve a Task Force or other ad hoc group in the project at this time.

Chair's Report: The Chair addressed negative comments voiced on Social Media and elsewhere about this year's Centennial Celebration Events, emphasizing that the idea of having multiple events offering different activities and price points was intended to provide residents with the option to attend either or both. Dissatisfied residents are encouraged to attend a Parks and Rec meeting and engage members about how residents can be more involved in and served by Board activities.

During a robust, 30-minute long **Public Comment period:**

- Dismay was expressed about the lack of representation at the October 19 event from prominent individuals including vendors and those currently contracted or employed with the City, current and former members of Council, local business owners, and other local and county officials. The Administration confirmed that invitations were sent; a few did decline due to conflicts. At least two services did have representatives attend.
- The need for better and more widely-distributed event advertising was brought up. The new Web site will help. Bringing back a Community Newsletter, in both digital and hard copy forms, was suggested; funding through advertising, sponsors, and grants could help.

The discussion about **future events and activities** revealed interest in:

- Helping with the Lake Elementary tutoring program for next Spring;
- Organizing a Home Decorating Contest for Halloween 2025;
- Hosting "A Matter of Balance" falls-prevention sessions for Seniors.

The Board decided against planning anything further for the remainder of the year.

Board Rules are in the process of being updated.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm

Next Regular Board Meetings: Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 pm; Thursday, December 12 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Jeannie Wong, Council Representative to Parks & Recreation Board

11-07 Meeting: Community Planning and Economic Development

Community Planning Economic Development Housing Diversity

Meeting Information

- Date & Time: 2024-11-07 18:59:07
- Location: [Insert Location]
- Attendees: [Insert Names]

Meeting Notes

1. Community Planning and Development

- **Existing Conditions Analysis**

Ryan Smalley from Envision discussed the existing conditions analysis for the comprehensive plan, focusing on demographics, housing, employment, zoning, land use, and taxes. The analysis aims to identify opportunities to address community priorities such as economic development, utility infrastructure, housing diversity, and parks and recreation.

- **Community Survey**

The meeting addressed the community survey, which has received 68 responses so far. Efforts are being made to distribute the survey to every household, including using social media and printed copies. The goal is to achieve a higher response rate, ideally reaching 7-8% of the population.

- **Demographic Trends**

The discussion highlighted demographic trends, noting an increase in both the aging population and younger families moving into the area. This demographic shift necessitates addressing diverse housing and amenity needs.

- **Housing Stock and Diversity**

The meeting reviewed the housing stock, noting older homes and a high percentage of rental properties. Discussions included the need for maintenance, code enforcement, and possibly expanding rental regulations to ensure property upkeep.

- **Housing and Community Stability**

The discussion focused on the housing situation, highlighting the lack of new housing starts and the prevalence of rentals, which affects community stability. The impact of the 2008 housing crisis was also noted, with many homes turning into rentals.

- **Economic Development and Employment**

The meeting addressed the economic challenges faced by the community, including low median income and limited job opportunities. The need for attracting higher-paying jobs and businesses was emphasized.

- **Infrastructure and Development Incentives**

The discussion covered the challenges of attracting businesses due to geographical isolation and lack of infrastructure. The potential use of development incentives to attract businesses was considered.

- **Data and Employment Statistics**

Concerns were raised about the accuracy of employment data, particularly regarding remote workers and home-based businesses. The need to understand the professional population better was highlighted.

Conclusion

1. The community needs to focus on improving housing conditions and reducing reliance on rentals to enhance stability.
2. Efforts should be made to attract businesses that offer higher-paying jobs to improve the community's economic situation.
3. Exploring development incentives and improving infrastructure could help attract businesses to the area.

3. Community and Retail Development through Strategic Data Utilization and Planning

- **Data Utilization for Land Use and Zoning**

The meeting discussed using cell phone tracking data to inform land use and zoning decisions. This data helps identify population trends, such as remote work and travel patterns, which can influence recommendations for amenities and business opportunities.

- **Retail and Community Development**

The discussion focused on leveraging retail data to understand community needs and improve retail offerings. The importance of using the lake as an asset to attract visitors and enhance retail success was highlighted.

- **Challenges with USA Management**

USA Management's handling of properties was identified as a barrier to development. The need for better maintenance and engagement with local

- **Future Planning and Zoning**

The importance of strategic planning and zoning to prepare for future development opportunities was discussed. Setting standards for future renovations and developments was considered crucial.

4. Community Development and Planning

- **Tax Incentives and Employment**

Discussion on the effectiveness of tax incentives given to developers, highlighting the issue that many employees do not reside in the local area, affecting local tax benefits.

- **Public Meeting Planning**

Plans for a community meeting on November 21, including the format and topics to be discussed, such as land use and infrastructure improvements.

- **Property Tax and Income Sources**

Analysis of the city's income sources, noting the high reliance on property tax due to low-wage employment and lack of industrial jobs.

- **Land Use and Zoning**

Discussion on current land use, zoning differences, and future land use planning, with a focus on residential and commercial areas.

- **Infrastructure and Transportation**

Consideration of current infrastructure, including road volumes and bike routes, and potential changes to improve connectivity to parks.

- **Community Feedback Mechanisms**

Methods for gathering community feedback during public meetings, including the use of boards and pins to indicate preferences and issues.

5. Community Engagement and Economic Development Planning

- **Board Design and Usage**

Discussion on how to effectively design and use boards for public input, including size, layout, and content focus. Suggestions include splitting boards into sections and focusing on economic development ideas.

- **Public Meeting Format**

Consideration of the format for the public meeting, including presentation length and participant engagement. The idea is to keep presentations short and encourage interaction with boards.

- **Economic Development and Community Strengths**

Discussion on the city's economic development, focusing on leveraging community strengths like affordable housing and parks. Concerns about the lake's role in development were raised.

- **Data Collection and Analysis**

Discussion on collecting data about park usage and economic impact from sports events. The need for tracking visitor data was highlighted.

- **Future Meetings and Feedback**

Plans for future meetings to discuss public feedback and develop recommendations. The iterative process of gathering and refining ideas was emphasized.

Conclusion

1. Boards will be revised to include clear questions about city strengths and opportunities, and will be prepared for the public meeting.
2. The presentation will be brief, and participants will be encouraged to engage with the boards.
3. Further input from the community is needed to identify strengths and opportunities beyond the lake.
4. Data collection methods need to be explored further.
5. A meeting will be scheduled in early January to discuss public feedback and draft recommendations.

Next Arrangements

- ☐ Distribute community survey to every household by November 21, 2024.
- ☐ Encourage social media posts to increase survey participation.
- ☐ Prepare public meeting materials for feedback in two weeks.
- ☐ Community meeting scheduled for November 21 with a 20-30 minute presentation and themed stations for feedback.
- ☐ Future land use map to be developed as part of planning.
- ☐ Schedule a meeting in early January to discuss public feedback and draft recommendations.
- ☐ Revise boards for public meeting to include clear questions about city strengths and opportunities.

AI Suggestion

AI has identified the following issues that were not concluded in the meeting or lack clear action items; please pay attention:

1. Further discussion is needed on how to effectively address the diverse needs of both the aging population and younger families moving into the area. This includes understanding their specific requirements and developing tailored community services and infrastructure.
2. There is a risk of low survey participation affecting the comprehensiveness of community feedback. Strategies to increase engagement need to be evaluated

3. The need to engage USA Management to improve property maintenance and community engagement remains unresolved. This is crucial for enhancing community development and ensuring the success of retail spaces.
4. Clarify the impact of remote workers and home-based businesses on local employment statistics. Understanding this impact is essential for accurate economic planning and development strategies.
5. Address the high reliance on property tax and explore strategies to diversify income sources, potentially through attracting higher-wage jobs. This is important to ensure long-term economic stability and growth.

Chief Forsythe
Revised Parking Ordinance

Good morning,

452.01(b)(3) says no parking within an intersection or 20 feet of an intersection. 452.01(b)(6) says no parking within 30 feet of, and upon the approach to, any flashing beacon, stop sign, or traffic control device. All intersections have a traffic control device i.e. stop sign so both subsections should be the same (20 feet or 30 feet).

452.01(b)(11) upon any bridge. Should this be removed since we don't have any bridges?

452.17(c) the proposed language includes construction equipment. I just want to make sure that is what they want. Construction equipment is a broad term that can include very large vehicles. Most lots in our city are smaller lots. We had talked about language prohibiting construction equipment from being parked on residential property unless it was being used for construction on that property.

452.17(d) There is no definition of a large vehicle. The height of a motor home or semi-truck ranges from 10 feet to 14 feet. The proposed language says property owners are encouraged to shield or screen the vehicle from viewing. Enforcing this section would be impossible if someone chooses not to shield or screen because it says "encouraged". Again, construction equipment is a broad term and includes equipment that can be as high as 22 feet. Privacy fencing that high is prohibited in the zoning ordinance and vegetation and/or landscaping would be nearly impossible on most residential lots in our city.

I don't see any problems with the noise ordinance. They took language from other cities.

November 12, 2024

Re: 2024-O-22 Amendments to Parking Ordinances

Dear Fellow Council Members:

In anticipation of eventual Short-Term Rental property regulation, the Ordinance Committee spent several months reviewing our current street and residential parking ordinances. In the end, we did not change much of the substance. We found an update was needed (to comply with ORC) and decided to consolidate two sections with two others in order to reduce the total number of sections and clarify what is and what is not allowed.

A prominent addition is to the revised Section 452.17, which now *encourages* the use of visual screening for large vehicles and RV's parked in residential yards, and *requires* the use of visual screening for any construction vehicles not actively being used for construction on the lot and parked on residential property for longer than 10 consecutive days.

Finally, the Penalties section 452.99 now establishes a 10-day limit for submission of any violation fines, and fees increase for payments submitted beyond that time limit.

The Ordinance Committee hopes these changes will be helpful to residents, guests, and law enforcement; and that you will agree with these changes. I would be happy to address any questions you have regarding this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeannie Wong', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Jeannie Wong
Council, Ward 1 Representative
Chair, Ordinance Committee of Council

November 12, 2024

Re: 2024-O-23 Creating CO 648.15 Noise

Dear Fellow Council Members:

In anticipation of eventual Short-Term Rental property regulation, the Ordinance Committee spent several months reviewing our current process for managing residential noise complaints. Valuable input was welcomed from our Police Chief and Law Director, as well as from residents who attended Committee meetings. While general "noise" is currently enforced by our Police under Disorderly Conduct (648.04), we do not have a dedicated noise policy that explicitly lists the most common types of residential noise that generate complaints. Therefore, a new section 648.15 has been proposed.

The enforcement and penalty structure for violations mirrors that for Disorderly Conduct, which is what our Police use currently for noise complaints. We have not sought to impose additional requirements or restrictions upon the discretion and judgement currently being exercised by the responding officer for complaints of this nature.

The Ordinance Committee hopes this addition to our Code will aid residents, guests, and law enforcement by defining more clearly what constitutes a noise disturbance; and that you will agree with it as written. I would be happy to address any questions you have regarding this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeannie Wong', written in a cursive style.

Jeannie Wong
Council, Ward 1 Representative
Chair, Ordinance Committee of Council