September 3, 2019 Public Safety Committee - Minutes

The City of Adel’s Public Safety Committee met in the council chambers at Adel City Hall, 301 South 10th Street, Adel, Iowa, on September 3, 2019 at 6:45 p.m.

Selby called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. Members present: McAdon, Ockerman, and Selby. Others: Council Members Christensen and Miller, City Administrator Brown, and several residents.

Ockerman motioned, seconded by McAdon, to approve the March 7, 2019 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion began on ATV regulations. Selby stated that residents has asked about using ATVs on City streets, which is currently prohibited under the City’s ordinances. Selby asked for public comments.

Darrell Hutzell, 102 N. 5th Street, stated that the City should allow ATVs because it already allows golf carts and snowmobiles. Hutzell stated that responsible ATV owners be given a chance.

Gina Lark, 108 N. 5th Street, stated her support of ATVs and provided the City of Boone’s ordinance. Kip Hutzell, 108 N. 5th Street, stated that 17 counties allow it and up to 30 counties may allow it next year.

Todd Chapman, 1901 N. 15th Street, stated comparisons to motorcycles and noted specific provisions in State Code that govern ATVs. Chapman reiterated Darrell Hutzell’s statement about being given a chance.

Ockerman stated that Dallas County does not have an ordinance on ATVs. Ockerman stated that the County Attorney had several objections.

McAdon asked about recreational uses. Chapman stated that ATVs can be used recreationally, for yard maintenance, for plowing, and for other uses.

Christensen stated that registration issues could be addressed and that a sunset could be used. Ockerman asked that City Attorney Kristine Stone contact the County Attorney. Miller stated that he would like to hear from the Police Department. McAdon stated that the City needs to perform its due diligence, as the ordinance would be written for everyone. Brown will follow-up with Stone.

Discussion moved to reviewing an open burn ban. Brown provided information about Polk County and communities in the Des Moines metro. Brown noted that the City has not received any complaints since the committee last discussed this issue in February.

Selby stated that she does not mind open burning except for trash. McAdon stated that she would be in favor of a ban for health reasons and since the City collects yard waste. Ockerman stated that he was not in favor of a ban since it has not been an issue.

In other business, the committee noted they would like to meet with the Fire Department.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Anthony Brown
City Administrator