

Port Clinton City Council  
Laws, Rules, and Ordinances Committee  
for Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting Notes

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m., City Hall Conference room

In attendance: Councilmen Beth Gillman, Jerry Tarolli, and Margaret Phillips, chairman

Community members/Others: None

Discussion/Action Topics:

1. Discussion of defining lights in the Mainstreet District.

A question arose regarding strands of lights affixed to exterior portions of downtown buildings. Lighting types falls under the Architectural Review Board. From City Code 1323.06 (8) "Landscape design and plant materials, which shall include, in addition requirements of the zoning code, lighting and the use of landscape details to highlight architectural features or screen or soften undesirable view." The zoning inspector or fire chief will be involved if problems with exterior lighting (for example, Christmas-style string lights) appear dangerous or in violation of the city code. Mainstreet should be aware of all of the lighting downtown.

2. The present Tree Commission Ordinance was discussed. From City Code 557.19 REMOVAL OR MUTILATION OF TREES. "It shall be a violation of this chapter to remove, destroy or mutilate any tree, shrub or other plant in a public tree lawn or any other public place, or to attach or place any rope or wire (other than one used to support a young or broken tree), sign, poster, handbill or other thing to or on any tree growing in a public place, or to allow any gaseous, liquid or solid substance which is harmful to such trees to come in contact with their roots or leaves.

"Street trees may be removed by filing an application for a permit for removal with the City Tree Commission and obtaining such permit in writing. Applications shall be available in the City's Safety-Service Director's office." Should the fine be specified as an exact amount per incident? Should it be added to 557.19? Should an exact amount be stated? Presently, the Code states: 557.99 PENALTY. "Whoever violates or refuses to comply with any provision of this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. Every person, firm or corporation shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each day during any portion of which any violation of any such provision is committed or continued."

Discussion will continue at the February L.R.O. Meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Tarolli, second by Councilman Gillman, 7:04 p.m.

Next meeting: →February 23, 2016, 6:30 p.m., City Hall Committee Room