

Port Clinton City Council
Laws, Rules, and Ordinances Committee
for Tuesday, May 24, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Notes

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

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

Community members/Others: Ralph Schroeder, P.C. resident, Ward 3

Discussion/Action Topics:

I. Ralph Schroeder asked if P.C. had any ordinances regarding buildings in need of repair. Mr. Schroeder was interested in 131 S. Madison Street as he had completed a walk-through via the building's owner with an eye to buying and repairing it. Of the interior, Mr. Schroeder said the roof is open to the sky in spots, ductwork is coming down, plumbing is bad, the wooden floors are rotting through, and a few seagulls have taken up residence. Mr. Schroeder stated that while three walls are two to three bricks thick the inside is beyond repair as well as the exterior glass. The L.R.O. Committee discussed this building in March based on an exterior examination by the County Building inspector. However, this is the first an observer has told us about the inside. Does this need pursuing through another PC Council committee with the thought of seeking a restoration developer or demolition?

II. The following will be discussed with Law Director Wilber:

1. Discussion on 557.02: CREATION OF CITY TREE COMMISSION

Presently states: "There is hereby established a City Tree Commission for the City, which shall consist of five members', residents, or individuals owning and operating a business located within the City, all of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of Council. The Mayor, or his representative, shall be an ad hoc member of the Commission."

Under discussion is the following:

"There is hereby established a City Tree Commission for the City, which shall consist of five members ***including*** residents, individuals owning ***and/or*** operating a business located within the City ***limits, and/or a city employee***, all of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of Council. The Mayor, or his/***her*** representative, shall be an ad hoc member of the Commission."

2. Continuation of the present Tree Commission Ordinance discussion from last month

557.19 Removal or mutilation of trees

No person without express permission of the tree commission shall cut down, destroy, girdle, remove or otherwise injure a vine, bush, shrub, sapling, tree or crop standing or growing on the land of another or upon public land.

Trees may be removed by filing an application for a permit for removal with the City Tree Commission and obtaining such approved permit in writing. Applications shall be available in the City's Safety-Service Director's office. Any violation of the section will result in a penalty as described in section 557.99. (Can we add this to this section?)

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.

Original penalty (but think we can get that to say \$250 plus treble damages):

557.99 PENALTY. Every person, firm or corporation who violates or refuses to comply with any provision of this chapter is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 per incident.

Can we have this (\$500) fine, or do we need to keep it as the ORC 901.51 reads and have it be a minor misdemeanor as in section 901.99?

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. on a motion by Jerry Tarolli, with a second by Beth Gillman, and 3-0 vote.

Next month's meeting: → June 28, 2016, 6:30 p.m., City Hall Committee Room