



PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE  
- MINUTES -  
Monday, April 13, 2009

Jesse Downing, Chairman  
Donald Ruef  
Stephen P. Casey

Kathy Carpenter  
Michael J. Orth

The regular meeting of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee was held on Monday, April 13, 2009 in Room 202 of the Kenosha Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm. The following members were present: Chairman Jesse Downing, Alderman Donald Ruef, and Kathy Carpenter. Alderman Stephen P. Casey and Michael J. Orth were excused. Staff members in attendance were Mitch Engen and Fire Chief John Thomsen.

*It was moved by Alderman Ruef, seconded by Alderman Carpenter, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, March 30, 2009. Motion passed 3-0.*

1. Proposed Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Section 16.09 D.2., Regarding Recurring Notices and Orders for Recurring Violations of the Property Maintenance Code. *(All Districts)*  
Public Hearing: No one spoke.  
Alderman/Staff: Mitch was available to answer questions.  
*It was moved by Alderman Ruef, seconded by Alderman Carpenter, to approve. Motion passed 3-0.*
2. City of Kenosha Fire Department 2008 Annual Report.  
Public Hearing: No one spoke.  
Alderman/Staff: Chief Thomsen was available to answer any questions.  
*It was moved by Alderman Ruef, seconded by Alderman Carpenter, to receive and file. Motion passed 3-0.*
3. Informational Item: Capital Improvement Project FI-96-004 Assistant Division Chief Vehicle.  
Public Hearing: No one spoke.  
Alderman/Staff: Chief Thomsen informed the committee that the vehicle was purchased from a local vendor with a savings of \$14,000.  
*It was moved by Alderman Ruef, seconded by Alderman Carpenter, to receive and file. Motion passed 3-0.*
4. Informational Item: Capital Improvement Project FI-06-001 Self-contained Breathing Apparatus.  
Public Hearing: No one spoke.  
Alderman/Staff: Chief Thomsen informed the committee that the breathing apparatus was purchased from a local vendor with a savings of \$212,000.  
*It was moved by Alderman Ruef, seconded by Alderman Carpenter, to receive and file. Motion passed 3-0.*

ADJOURNMENT - *There being no further business to come before the Public Safety & Welfare Committee, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn at 6:10 pm.*

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY: THE MAYOR

**TO REPEAL AND RECREATE SECTION 3.01 C. OF THE CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF CHAPTER III**

The Common Council of the City of Kenosha, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

**Section One:** Section 3.01 C. of the Code of General Ordinances for the City of Kenosha, Wisconsin, is repealed and recreated as follows:

**C. Enforcement.**

1. It shall be the duty of the Chief and personnel of the Bureau to enforce the regulations of this Chapter and all other laws, lawful orders and ordinances relating to the following:

- a. The prevention of fires;
- b. The storage, sale, use and handling of combustibles and explosives, including fireworks;
- c. The installations and maintenance of fire alarm systems and fire protection equipment, appliances and devices;
- d. The maintenance of fire escapes as means of egress;
- e. The means, adequacy and maintenance of exit from all buildings, structures or other places in which numbers of persons live, sleep, work or congregate from time to time for any purpose;
- f. The investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires.

2. The Police Chief and police officers shall have the concurrent responsibility with the Chief of the Fire Department to enforce Section 3.18 of this Ordinance, entitled "Fireworks".

**Section Two:** This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage and publication.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Passed:

Published:

Drafted By:  
EDWARD R. ANTARAMIAN,  
Acting City Attorney

**REDLINE VERSION**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**BY: THE MAYOR**

**TO REPEAL AND RECREATE SECTION 3.01 C. OF THE  
CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES REGARDING THE  
ENFORCEMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF CHAPTER III**

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**C. Enforcement.**

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- a. 1.** The prevention of fires;
- b. 2.** The storage, sale, use and handling of combustibles and explosives, including fireworks;
- c. 3.** The installations and maintenance of fire alarm systems and fire protection equipment, appliances and devices;
- d. 4.** The maintenance of fire escapes as means of egress;
- e. 5.** The means, adequacy and maintenance of exit from all buildings, structures or other places in which numbers of persons live, sleep, work or congregate from time to time for any purpose;
- f. 6.** The investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires.

**2.** The Police Chief and police officers shall have the concurrent responsibility with the Chief of the Fire Department to enforce Section 3.10 of this Ordinance, entitled "Fireworks".

**Section Two:** This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage and publication.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk  
\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor                      Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Passed:

Published:

Drafted By:  
EDWARD R. ANTARAMIAN,  
Acting City Attorney



**Engineering Division**  
Michael M. Lemens, P.E.  
Director/City Engineer  
**Fleet Maintenance**  
Mauro Lenci  
Superintendent  
**Administrative Supervisor**  
Janice D. Schroeder

**Street Division**  
John H. Prijic  
Superintendent  
**Waste Division**  
Rocky Bednar  
Superintendent

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**Ronald L. Bursek, P.E., Director**

Municipal Building · 625 52<sup>nd</sup> ST · RM 305 · Kenosha, WI 53140  
Telephone (262) 653-4050 · Fax (262) 653-4056

April 24, 2009

To: Jesse Downing, Chairman  
Public Safety & Welfare Committee

From: Kevin Risch, P.E. *KKR 4-24-09*  
Assistant City Engineer

Subject: Informational Item: Speed Reduction on 75<sup>th</sup> Street between 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Sheridan Road  
(Ald. District #3, #12, #13)

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

Due to concerns that surfaced during last years 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue reconstruction project with regards to speed control, Public Works is attempting to make it easier for Kenosha Police to enforce the speeds within the 75<sup>th</sup> Street corridor during this years reconstruction.

Last year the reconstruction contract called for reduced speed construction signs (black letters on an orange background) to be placed along the project corridor. With the narrow lanes and driving next to the curb head, we wanted to prevent accidents from occurring. However, because of the motorists disregard for the speed reduction signs, we asked for assistance from the Kenosha Police Department (KPD). However, we found out that the construction speed limit signs are only advisory and not enforceable for KPD to write speeding tickets. The way the tickets were issued was by Unreasonable and Imprudent speeds for condition. These signs could not be accompanied by double fines in work zones because them only being advisory signs.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The recommendation is to place regulatory speed limit signs (black letters on white background) at the proper size and at the proper height above the ground so that tickets can be issued based on speeds over the posted limit. Additionally, we would like to post the fines double in work zone signs to make the point clear as to the penalty. This proposed change was discussed with our Legal Department to determine if an ordinance change was necessary and were told that a change was not required to post this reduction in a work zone. Therefore, we are informing you of this proposal.

KKR:kkkr