

Safety Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
April 9, 2013

The Safety Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday April 8, 2013 following the Finance Committee meeting. These members were present:

Marc Guthrie, Chair
Jeff Rath
Bill Cost Jr

Carol Floyd
Rhonda Loomis

We wish to report:

1. Consider Ordinance No 13-09 amending Chapter of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Newark, Ohio regarding the impounding of companion animals.

Law Director- explained the ordinance was prepared by his office to amend the Codified Ordinances regarding the impoundment of companion animals. Basically, to bring Newark's Ordinances into conformity with the recent changes in the State Law regarding the processes for an owner redeeming an animal that had been impounded by an animal control officer.

Currently Newark Codified Ordinance allows three days for an appeal, State Law demands 10 days for that appeal, and this puts us in a constitutional bind if we vary from that spanned due process that the Ohio Revised Code allows. He said they were asking Council to change the procedure to conform to State Law.

Motion by Mr. Rath, second by Mrs. Floyd to send to full Council

Ms. Best- asked what the definition of a companion animal was.

Law Director- answered it basically is an animal that lives in your home, generally speaking it is dogs and cats. He said he knew people have other animals living in their home however a companion animal is envisioned in this section of the Code as a dog or a cat.

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Guthrie- stated the item he wished to mention may need to go to Finance Committee but it impacts our Safety forces, he noticed that there was a significant disbursement from the State Government of Casino dollars to Local Governments. He thought that we could ask for a report on how that impacts our City since we lost money on the other end. He hoped that the Auditor, Steve Johnson could provide information regarding this issue to Council regarding it.

Chair, Marc Guthrie