

Draft Minutes

NEW YORK MILLS CITY COUNCIL

**Public Hearing Regarding
Updates to Animal Ordinance No. 113, Nuisances Ordinance No. 106 and
New Food Truck/Cart Ordinance
September 10, 2024
5:15 p.m.**

The Public Hearing convened at 5:15 p.m.

Members Present Maki, Hetland, Grotheer, Hammond

Members Absent Nesland

Staff Present City Clerk Julie Roberts, Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, Public Works Superintendent Kyle Mattson,

Guests Present Sommer Dow-104 N Main Ave, Jessica Helmbrecht-229 S Main Ave., Cindy Salo-220 Main Ave. (Artist in Residence-Cultural Center), Ben Jacobson-36691 Co. Hwy 67

Call to Order The Public Hearing was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Mayor Maki. A quorum was present.

- I. Mayor Maki welcomed guests and explained that the purpose of the Public Hearing was to obtain public input for proposed revisions to the Animal Ordinance, No. 113, Nuisances Ordinance No. 106 and to consider a new Food Truck/Cart Ordinance for adoption. Proper notice was given via both posted and published public notice.
- II. Ordinance No. 113 Updates and Renumbering- Clerk Roberts referred to Pg 5: (Exception): Section 5 Chickens. The proposed revision would allow up to 4 chickens in city limits and contains limits, licensing process and regulations relating to them. Roberts stated the proposed ordinance was derived from the City of Detroit Lakes' ordinance and followed guidance from the League of Minnesota Cities. Perham does not have an ordinance on chickens, while Wadena does. Several in attendance expressed concerns over testing chickens for disease, smells associated with having them next door and disposal of manure. A permit will be required to have chickens. Sommer Dow asked what the cost would be and who would be enforcing the ordinance. Roberts responded that the Police Department would enforce and an annual permit will be assessed, potentially in the \$25 range. Jessica Helmbrecht pointed out that the Ordinance states that impounded chickens not redeemed would be disposed of by the Public Works Department. Clerk Roberts stated that this will be corrected to read "Animal Control Officer". Councilman Grotheer stated that the permit fee should be part of the City's fee schedule and revisited annually. Sommer Dow asked how renters applying will be handled. Clerk Roberts replied that the landlord will have to approve and the application needs to be submitted by the property owner. Sommer Dow commented the cost of fencing and an approved shelter along with the permit fee should be a financial investment that will encourage better care. Ben Jacobson commented that administration and enforcement of the ordinance may potentially be a large burden to put on a city the size of New York Mills. No other concerns were expressed or changes requested. Going forward the Animal Ordinance will be renumbered to No. 701.
- III. Ordinance No. 106 Updates and Renumbering – Clerk Roberts presented the draft of the Health and Safety; Nuisances Ordinance which will be renumbered to Ordinance No. 1001. Roberts pointed out that the only

change to the ordinance is Section 106.06 under letter (M) which will be changed to read: “Barbed wire and razor wire are lonely allowed in commercial areas and only on top of chain link fencing that is at least six feet in height. Please refer to zoning ordinance”. There were no comments or concerns by the Public.

IV. Ordinance No. 702 – Clerk Roberts referred to the proposed ordinance Establishing Licensing and Regulations for Mobile Food Units and Food Carts in the packet. With many new food trucks operating in New York Mills, the Council felt it was prudent to have regulations in place to ensure that food trucks operating within the City are legally licensed by the MN Dept of Health and insured, and that they adhere to regulations and standards as presented in the ordinance. She commented that the ordinance is meant to help local businesses rather than hinder them. Food Trucks would need to apply for a permit to operate in New York Mills, would only be able to operate on private property with permission and could only sell at events if invited. This would protect organizations such as school concession stands from having competition at their school sanctioned events. Councilman Grotheer pointed out that the fee will be nominal and not part of the ordinance itself. Lundmania would be an exception and would not require a permit. Currently, there is no cost for C&C members to sell at Lundmania and non-members pay \$50.00.

With no further comments or concerns brought forward, Mayor Maki thanked everyone present.

The public hearing was closed at 5:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Julie A. Roberts
City Clerk

(Notes taken and typed by Cheri Kopveiler, Administrative Assistant)