

Agenda and Business Meeting
October 4, 2023
Borough of Charleroi Council Chamber

PLEASE PUT YOUR CELL PHONE ON SILENT

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Gregg Doerfler
Joseph Smith, Council Vice President
Nancy Ellis, Council Member
Jerry Jericho, Council Member
Solicitor Sean Logue, Esq.

Frank Paterra, Council President
Paul Pivovarnik, Council Member
Larry Celaschi, Council Member
Randy DiPiazza, Council Member
Roberta Doerfler, Boro Admin/Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Meeting with Neil Rongaus at 5:30 p.m. October 4, 2023

PRESENTATIONS/IN ATTENDANCE

- Mark Turnley – presenting 2022 audit and offering advice
- RVE-Engineer’s monthly report

DRAFT MOTIONS

1. Ratify the September 2023 Municipal list of expenses and payments in the amount of \$XXXXX (number may change between this week and next)
2. Approve dog ordinance

DISCUSSION:

- Hire public works laborers (Larry)
- Hire public works, working foreman (Larry)
- Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement (Larry)
- Washington County LSA grant (Larry)
- Newspaper articles (Larry)
- Rescind LSA letter of support (Larry)
- 2024 Medicare renewal (retirees)
- Received application for school guard
- 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
- Demo certifications and releases for 403 Lookout, 520 Third, 828 Oakland and 421 McKean
- Safety Management Improvement Service (Gregg)
- Bids for tree trimming (Gregg)
- Street paving for 2024 (Gregg)
- Letter from Gene & Boots Candies (Nancy)
- Student Government Day (Nancy)
- Moratorium on spending and hiring (Frank)
- Advisory board (Frank)
- Playground fencing (Jerry)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/COMMENT

CLOSE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMITTEES

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| • Finance | Nancy Ellis & Larry Celaschi | Personnel | Larry Celaschi & Joseph Smith |
| • Public Works | Gregg Doerfler | Code | Randy DiPiazza |
| • Parks and Rec | Jerry Jericho & Paul Pivovarnik | Police | Gregg Doerfler Larry Celaschi & Joseph Smith |
| • Fire Ems & Animal Control | Jerry Jericho | Community Planning | Nancy Ellis |

EXECUTIVE SESSION Personnel

COUNCIL OFFICIAL PUBLIC ACTION (if needed)

ORDINANCES: FIRST READINGS: (no vote required)

Signs Ordinance

§ 500-42 Conformance required.

Signs may be erected and maintained only when in accordance with the provisions of this article and any and all other ordinances and regulations relating to the erection, alteration or maintenance of signs and similar devices.

§ 500-43 Signs in residence districts.

[Amended 1-20-1976 by Ord. No. 2]

The following types of signs and no other shall be permitted in residence districts:

A.

Signs advertising the sale or rental of the premises upon which they are erected, when erected by the owner or broker or any other person interested in the sale or rental of such premises, may be erected and maintained, provided:

(1)

The size of any such sign is not in excess of six square feet; and

(2)

Not more than two signs are placed upon any property in single and separate ownership, unless such property fronts upon more than one street, in which event two such signs may be erected on each frontage.

B.

Signs advertising the sale or development of the premises upon which they are erected, when erected in connection with the development of the premises by a builder, contractor, developer, or other person interested in such sale or development, may be erected and maintained, provided:

(1)

The size of any sign is not in excess of 20 square feet; and

(2)

Not more than two signs are placed upon any property in single and separate ownership, unless such property fronts upon more than one street, in which event two such signs may be erected on each frontage.

C.

Signs indicating the location and direction of premises available for or in process of development, but not erected upon such premises, and having inscribed thereon the name of the owner, developer, builder or agent may be erected and maintained, provided:

(1)

The size of any such sign is not in excess of six square feet and not in excess of four feet in length.

(2)

Not more than one such sign is erected on each 500 feet of street frontage.

D.

Signs bearing the word "sold" or the word "rented" with the name of the persons effecting the sale or rental may be erected and maintained, provided the conditions in Subsection A hereof are complied with.

E.

Temporary signs of contractors, developers, architects, engineers, builders, and artisans, erected and maintained on the premises where the work is being performed, provided that the area of each such sign shall not exceed 12 square feet, and provided that such sign shall be removed upon completion of the work.

F.

Trespassing signs or signs indicating the private nature of a driveway or property, provided that the size of any sign shall not exceed two square feet.

G.

Signs of schools, colleges, churches, hospitals, sanitariums, or other institutions of a similar nature may be erected and maintained, provided:

(1)

The size of any such sign is not in excess of 20 square feet; and

(2)

Not more than two signs are placed on a property in single and separate ownership, unless such property fronts upon more than one street, in which event two such signs may be erected on each frontage.

H.

Signs advertising home occupations shall not be larger than six inches by 18 inches, bearing the name and occupation (words only and not illuminated) of the practitioner.

§ 500-44 Signs in commercial districts.

[Amended 4-6-2015 by Ord. No. 2015-2[1]]

The following types of signs shall be permitted in commercial districts:

A.

Advertising signboards. Advertising signboards may be erected and maintained in Commercial Districts, only when they relate or refer directly to the use conducted on the premises or to the material or products made, sold or displayed on the premises. The general regulations in § 500-45 shall apply to advertising signboards.

B.

Billboards.

(1)

A "billboard" is hereby defined as any off-premises sign with a changeable advertising face that advertises an establishment, person, activity, product or service that is unrelated to or not available on the premises on which the sign is located.

(2)

Only one billboard shall be permitted per lot.

(3)

No sign shall be located in such a position that it will cause a hazard by obstructing visibility for traffic on a street or obscuring a traffic signal or other traffic control device, and no billboard shall hang over or be erected within the right-of-way of any street, nor be located within the clear sight triangle as generally defined.

(4)

Any illumination shall be directed upon the sign face and not toward adjoining properties or streets, and flashing or oscillating signs shall not be permitted. All lighting shall be stationary and constant in intensity and color at all times, except for an approved electronic changeable copy sign. The intensity of any source of illumination, whether indirect or internal, shall be controlled so as to not create glare and to be compatible with the intensity of ambient light and illumination on surrounding properties.

(5)

All billboards must be constructed of a durable material and maintained in good condition. Any billboard found to be in an unsafe condition upon inspection shall be declared to be a public nuisance, and the Zoning Officer or such other municipal official as authorized by Borough Council shall give notice to the owner in writing to repair or remove the billboard within 30 days. Upon failure of the owner to comply, the Borough shall remove the billboard at the owner's expense.

(6)

No billboard may be erected except upon first obtaining a permit from the Borough, wherein the application for the proposed billboard shall show on a drawing to scale the location of the proposed billboard in relationship to the road right-of-way or rights-of-way, lot setback distances, property lines, and the height, width and total square footage of the proposed billboard. The application must contain the name and address of the billboard owner and the landowner and must contain an affidavit attesting that there is a valid lease agreement between them for the land on which the billboard is to be located or that the billboard owner is also the owner of the land. The fee for said permit shall be set by resolution by Borough Council. Therein, any and all permits issued by the Borough shall be on an annual basis, wherein a new permit fee must be paid for each year.

(7)

Any permit issued by the Borough shall automatically expire upon the anniversary date of the issuance and shall not be extended unless application for renewal is made prior to the expiration date. Otherwise, a new application shall be made with the issuance of a new permit based on the fee therein in effect.

(8)

Billboards shall only be permitted in the Commercial Zoning District, and no billboard shall be erected within 100 feet of any other billboard, regardless of lot size and/or lot ownership, except if the location is along a limited-access highway, as defined by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, not within 500 feet of any other billboard, regardless of lot size and/or lot ownership.

(9)

No billboard shall exceed Pennsylvania Department of Transportation limitations.

(10)

Any person, corporation or legal entity that violates this section shall be subject to the penalties, civil and criminal, as provided in this chapter, with enforcement and/or prosecution being conducted in accordance therewith.

C.

Business identification signs. Signs bearing the name of the occupant and products manufactured, processed, sold or displayed may be erected and maintained on the premises in Commercial and Industrial Districts. The size of business identification signs shall not be restricted; however, all general regulations shall apply to such signs.

[1]

Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

§ 500-45 General regulations.

The following regulations shall apply to all permitted sign uses:

A.
Signs must be constructed of durable material, maintained in good condition and not allowed to become dilapidated.

B.
No sign shall be placed in such a position that it will cause danger to traffic on a street by obscuring the view.

C.
No sign, other than an official traffic sign, shall be erected within the lines of any street, unless authorized by the Borough Council for a special purpose.

D.
No sign shall project over a public sidewalk area more than 18 inches.

E.
No permit shall be required for the erection, alteration, or maintenance of any signs as permitted in § [500-43](#), Signs in residence districts.

F.
A permit shall be required for the erection or alteration of billboards or advertising signboards.

G.
All signs shall be removed when the circumstances leading to their erection no longer apply.

ORDINANCES: FINAL READINGS: (to be voted on at next meeting)

ORDINANCES: FIRST READINGS: Dog Ordinance

Part 1. DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE

§ 101 Definitions

As used in this Part, the following terms have the meaning indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context.

- Dog Control: the apprehending, holding, and disposing of stray or unwanted dogs or activities that reduce the number of dog related problems.
- Owner: Any person having a right of property in any dog or having custody of any dog, or any person who harbors or permits a dog to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.
- Running at Large: Being upon any highway, street, alley, park, or any other public land or upon property of another person other than the owner's and not being accompanied by or under the control of the owner or any other person having custody of said dog.

§ 102 Unlawful to Allow Dogs to Run at Large

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or dogs to allow or permit such dog or dogs to run at large in the Borough of Charleroi.

§ 103 Seizure of Dogs

Any Borough police officer may seize any dog found running at large in the Borough. Any animal control officer may seize any unlicensed dog running at large in the Borough, but any such animal control officer may seize licensed dogs running at large in the Borough only under the supervision and control of a Borough police officer. Any dog thus seized is to be impounded in a licensed kennel or in a kennel maintained by the Borough.

§ 104 Licensed Dogs

Owners of licensed dogs must be notified by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested that the dog is impounded and will be disposed of in five days if not claimed. Five days after the return receipt has been received, and the dog has not been claimed, the dog may be sold or destroyed in accordance with the Dog law.

§ 105 Unlicensed Dogs

Unlicensed dogs that are seized are to be held in such kennel for 48 hours and if not claimed may be destroyed in accordance with the Dog law.

§ 106 Dogs that Threaten

Every Borough police officer may kill any dog which is found running at large and is deemed, after due consideration by the police officer, to constitute a threat to the public health and welfare.

§ 107 Penalties

1. The owner or claimant of the dog detained by the Borough, or its animal control officer shall pay a penalty of \$15 to the Borough plus all reasonable expenses incurred by reason of the dog's detention before the dog is returned to the owner or claimant. The Board of Supervisors may fix and amend by resolution a fixed and reasonable fee for detaining the animal in the Borough kennel (hereinafter referred to as "kennel fees").
2. The Borough's animal control officer is authorized to collect said penalties and kennel fees on behalf of the Borough and shall promptly remit such collected monies to the Borough.
3. Any person found in violation of any provision of Article II through Article VIII, inclusive of the Dog Law and/or Part, upon conviction thereof an action brought before a district justice in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 90 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues or each Section of this Part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense.

MEETING ADJOURN