



City of Gahanna

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Meeting Minutes Code Review Special Committee

Monday, January 29, 2018

5:30 PM

City Hall

A. CALL TO ORDER

Leeseberg called the meeting called to order at 5:36 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Council Members Karen Angelou, Jamie Leeseberg, Stephen Renner, City Attorney Shane Ewald, Chief Jeff Spence, and Clerk of Council Kim Banning in attendance.

C. NEW BUSINESS

D. DISCUSSION - Mobile Food Vendor Ordinance

Spence said this is a very outdated area of code; safety, health, etc. are not regulated in current code; very low fee of \$25; needs to be updated to address concerns; his belief is easiest to adopt the Columbus code and come up with own licensing and inspections once they have gone through the Columbus process; no ability to regulate on private property; number of health and safety concerns from PD and Fire; intent for good regulations and licensing; do not want to over regulate; good thing for businesses; wants everyone to be safe; reviewed the checklist that is required by Columbus (attached); talk a little bit about electronic reservation system; easy to adopt Columbus system and regulate parking spots in Olde Gahanna area; will help us in the future at no cost; Ewald said he likes Columbus under special events; look under 121; we don't take on the liability for infrastructure; one stop shop vendor can come in and have all forms required to have a food truck; entire processing in one place; much more convenient; Angelou asked if they could be in private property; Spence said this will give us the ability to regulate on private property; Ewald said important thing for reservation system is for public right of way; need to regulate; Angelou asked how many vendors we have; Spence said not a good handle because do not have regulatory code in place; they've tried to regulate certain businesses, but need this nailed down from a regulatory and reservation system and businesses can continue to prosper; Renner asked who does inspections; will PD have authority to have inspections done; desire that Columbus does all inspections; if we find someone doesn't have

proper permit they can go out and give a warning; if not complying can be cited and leave the premises; Leeseberg asked if you could bypass Columbus; you have to go by their inspections and we will adopt their code; the fire inspections are a big problem; Leeseberg asked how far out you can reserve; Spence said that calendar is populated; can look for a specific site and area; plan future dates; allow us to continue to work with Strategic Plan and grow Olde Gahanna area; Angelou asked if have a lot of vendors; this is outside of the that; like the Blues & Jazz; same with St. Matthew's Festival; they should not have to go through the entire process for one event; safety and health will always be addressed; private would have to be approved; the public is a little different; this is just a first step; can tweak code as we go; come back with additional requirements; Ewald said we are focusing on public but will add private; Ewald said we are utilizing Columbus to vet all the work; Renner asked the process; Leeseberg said we will work through the process; Spence said this is the first step of the process; would like to focus on fee structure by Columbus; non-refundable \$50 to submit to the City; we will absorb administrative cost; Renner asked if able to quantify cost; Spence said later he will be able to provide numbers; permit fee would be from safety director; vendors will need to pay licensing to Columbus; Angelou asked what are the fines for violation; Spence said penalty section is on page 7; any day they operate in excess of violation is additional charge; gives ability to suspend or revoke a license; Spence said we could add if someone found in violation they are given a written warning or misdemeanor; it's up to the will of Council; Angelou said we need to have this in place; Ewald said this process self regulates; we could have someone at the rodeo; make processing very easy on them; can bring Columbus officials to speak to everyone; Spence said they have it down to a science; this meeting is a little pre-mature; Angelou asked if they are closed down immediately; Spence said it can be put in our code; Columbus has a very robust penalty section; it's something we can look at; ease into this process; Leeseberg said this protects who is following health and safety codes;

Ninja Food Truck; Columbus license able to serve in Gahanna location; asked if they could be here; need to get code updated first; working on getting code passed; ideally before the season starts in April; encouraged to go to rodeo;

Resident asked if health department does inspections; they only inspect for food; all other services are for health and safety.

Resident Lighthouse Coffee; he doesn't think we should cut & paste from Columbus; not the same; we are trying to accomplish safety.

Food truck owner said they get license in Columbus and can move around Ohio; this is first time he's heard City is trying to get a fee; he doesn't believe other cities have this type of fee; Spence said a lot of cities have reciprocal agreement; we don't want to discourage their business; Angelou said if everyone gets all things required by Columbus; we may have a process where you can go to all the departments and get your licensing; we will check into it; he only operates in Gahanna; he and his wife run food truck; if they have to have another door, they will go out of business.

Resident said current in Columbus food truck code requirements; you have to move every so many days; Spence said we are here to make sure health and safety are taken care of; we need to regulate in the interest of public safety; she sees trucks on bricks and are not in compliance.

Ewald said there are going to be exceptions for on-site inspections; Leeseberg said maybe we could have inspection fees here; Ewald said maybe we can do a pass through; Spence said we will work on this and come up with recommendation.

Angelou asked if there are regulations in size; Spence said no.

Clerk asked for people to give email addresses if interested in future dates; Spence asked if reservation system would help; some said yes; Central Ohio Food Truck Association has same booking process; fees are very minimal.

Ewald said the thrust of this is just safety; Leeseberg said you always have one person who isn't in compliance.

Streetfoodfinder.com has a lot of information.

[2018-0040](#)

City of Columbus Mobile Food Vending Documents

E. RECOMMENDATION

Ewald said need to review fee structure, local inspections, permit process and meet with Columbus and Central Ohio Food Truck Association for more information.

Not ready for Committee of the Whole; would like Columbus to come out.

F. ADJOURNMENT

7:28 p.m.