

October 11 2016 Council Planning & Public Safety Committee-

Re discussion of Code Enforcement Hearing Boards-HB 422

Chair Mossotti called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. All committee members were present. Council Members, F. Brown, Plomin, Moloney, and Evans were in attendance as non-voting members.

#### **HB 422 – Code Enforcement Hearing Boards**

Scutchfield introduced David Barberie, with Law Department, who presented the item. This legislation allows hearing officers to handle the cases with an additional administrative appeal to the board. Some of the immediate recommendations are to change all of the existing ordinances to follow the new state law; use hearing officers to handle administrative appeals; and create and operate the new notification system. Long-term recommendations include consolidation of the (5) existing boards into 1 board and consider utilizing paid hearing officers.

Lamb thanked Barberie for the presentation and asked about training requirements. He said there would be minimal training requirements. They would mostly use attorneys who are already familiar with how to handle the hearings.

Kay wanted to clarify that this proposal meets the minimum requirement. Barberie responded that the fine level is not required, but it is a recommendation. Kay asked if the additions were just because it is a convenient time to do so that. Barberie said that CE is going to have a lot of changes and when you look through these ordinances today you will see it consolidates the existing ordinances so it isn't spread throughout the code.

Mossotti asked if this was just compliance. Barberie said that without this, they would no longer have a priority on their liens. If they decided not to do anything at all, they would have less of a success rate on compliance as well as collections.

A motion was made by Scutchfield to approve the Code Enforcement Hearing Boards ordinance and refer it to the full Council, seconded by Kay. The motion passed without dissent.