

Item 23-1175: Request from Alan Schmidt at 508 W. Wisconsin Avenue for a Terrace Occupancy Permit to keep an existing terrace flower garden in the street terrace along N. Alvin Street

Item 23-1176 Request from Appleton Downtown Inc. for free ramp and meter parking on Small Business Saturday, November 25, 2023

Municipal Services Committee

Mon, Oct 09, 2023 4:30PM

Alderman Chad Doran (District 15) 01:30

So, our action items begin with item 23-1175 request from Alan Schmidt at 508 West Wisconsin avenue for a terrace occupancy permit to keep an existing terrace flower garden in the street terrace along North Alvin Street.

Alderman William Siebers (District 1) 01:46

Move for approval.

Alderman Vered Meltzer (District 2) 01:47

Second.

Alderman Chad Doran (District 15) 01:49

All right. We have a motion in a second. Is there anyone in the audience who wishes to speak on this? Go ahead, sir. Come on up to the podium there, and you can just state your name and address for the record.

John F. (Former Resident) 02:06

We live in Mishicot, Wisconsin but have a home on nine—at [XXXXX] in Appleton. And I don't know if you need any further information, if there's a concern. I—this afternoon I walked Alvin Street for a couple of blocks and tried to find people who were home. I thought a holiday might find some more home. I found eight people who were home who all either supported—there were one....six who supported the request. No one opposed it. There were a couple who couldn't understand what I was trying to explain about what was going on with the permitting. And they said they like flowers, but they weren't going to get involved in it. So, it seemed to me that the neighborhood was supportive of it. And they've of course, lived there for several years while it's been there. And then the request included a request to include signage on it. And this is the sign that I was proposing having in each section, that is on each side of the driveway from Planned Parenthood on to Alvin Street. And then additionally there is—the site is a certified National Wildlife Federation native habitat. It has that designation. And there's a sign that's about 8 by 10 metal sign that I would like to include on there as well.

Alderman Chad Doran (District 15) 03:55

Right. Thank you, sir. Go ahead Alder Siebers.

Alderman William Siebers (District 1) 04:00

Thank you. May I ask the gentleman?

Alderman Chad Doran (District 15) 04:02

Sure.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:04

You planted the garden, didn't you?

John F. (Former Resident) 04:06

I did. Yes.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:08

And I'm going to assume you took care of the garden.

John F. (Former Resident) 04:12

Right.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:13

And now you're no longer living in Appleton.

John F. (Former Resident) 04:16

I no longer reside here. Right.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:19

Okay, who's taking care of the garden?

John F. (Former Resident) 04:21

I do I'm here every week.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:23

Oh. Okay. Okay.

John F. (Former Resident) 04:24

And there are others who starting—I moved just recently in the last few months and we are talking with people who are going to take that up weekly and keep an eye on it. Plus, I like to attend events and Appleton—

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:42

Okay,

John F. (Former Resident) 04:43

—quite often, so.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:43

As long as somebody who's taking care of it.

John F. (Former Resident) 04:45

Right. Right. I understand that, and I had to make that assurance with Al as well.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 04:50

Okay. Thank you.

John F. (Former Resident) 04:52

Sure.

Aldersperson Chad Doran (District 15) 04:54

Anyone else? If I can just ask a quick question of staff. I assume this was taken care of, but just looking at it, are there—does staff any con—have any concerns about vision obstructions or anything that near the street in allowing the sort of additional extended height?

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 05:15

Staff reviewed all the application materials, and site photos meet the requirements of the street terrace policy. So, we have no reservations with recommending approval under the policy.

Aldersperson Chad Doran (District 15) 05:27

Okay. Anyone else? Then we'll go ahead and vote. All in favor? Aye. All right, that motion passes four, zero.

Aldersperson Chad Doran (District 15) 05:35

And action item 23-1176 a request from Appleton Downtown Inc. for free ramp and meter parking on Small Business Saturday, November 25, 2023

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 05:49

Move for approval.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:50

Second.

Aldersperson Chad Doran (District 15) 05:51

We have a motion and a second. Anyone from the audience that wanted to speak? Come on up.

Jennifer Stephany (Appleton Downtown Incorporated) 06:01

You thank you. I appreciate the opportunity. I'm Jennifer Stefany. I'm the executive director with Appleton Downtown Incorporated. And we appreciate the opportunity to bring this request forward on behalf of the many, many small businesses that we get a chance to work with each and every day. Small Business Saturday, as you know, brings a huge economic impact to our small local shops here throughout the Fox Cities, and we've done a promotion year after year. It continues to grow. Last year, we had 70 plus businesses that participated. We know that will continue to grow. But certainly a day like Small Business Saturday is an outstanding opportunity for us to really roll out the red carpet to those shoppers, and ask them for their support of locally owned businesses. And we would love the opportunity to also promote free parking on that day. So, we appreciate your consideration. Thanks.

Aldersperson Chad Doran (District 15) 06:54

Thank you. Questions from committee? All right. If there are none, then we'll go and take a vote. All in favor, aye. All right, that motion passes for zero.