

Full Meeting
Community Development Committee
Wed, Jul 23, 2025 4:30PM

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 00:04

Hello and welcome to the Wednesday, July 23 2025 Community Development Committee. I call this meeting to order. Let us begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

All Present 00:17

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all. **[It looks and sounds like only Aldersperson Vaya Jones says the words "under God", while Alderspersons Josh Lambrecht, Vered Meltzer, and Denise Fenton do not.]**

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 00:31

Wonderful. As for roll call of membership, we have one excused absence, Alder Heffernan, otherwise, the rest are present.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 00:40

Next, we're gonna move on to the approval of minutes from the previous meeting, 25-0848, minutes from 7-9-2025.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 00:47

Move to approve.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 00:48

Second.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 00:49

All right. Are there any corrections or updates to this? None? All right, let's go ahead and vote. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye. Those opposed? Abstentions? That passes four zero.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:02

We have no public hearings or appearances for today, so that allows us to move on to our action items. First is 25-0772, request to approve proposed text amendments to the Municipal Code, Chapter Four, buildings, section 4-392, exemptions, as identified in the attached document. Can I get a motion?

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 01:21

Move to approve.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 01:22

Second.

Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:23

All right, and who do we have speaking today? All right. No, that's the one that you don't have. Go ahead.

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 01:32

Hi. We're just changing some language in the chapter four to allow people who are licensed electricians to do electrical work in their own homes. Let me give you a little bit of background. Really, to do electrical work, you need to have a license. So, there's an exemption—an exemption. If you live in your own home, owner occupied home, you can do your own electrical work.

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 01:57

In 2018 we came to the Council and recommended that we put some restrictions on that, because we had homeowners taking permits out for service changes and solar installations, and they really struggled, you know, with the knowledge, and we didn't want to have to, like, do the work—or, you know, advise them. We thought that they should—these are too complicated, basically. So, we put those restrictions in, and it passed. So now we ran into a couple situations where people were, like, journeyman electricians, and, you know, they could do the work. So, we thought it was a little too restrictive to not allow them to take their own permits out if they are a competent electrician.

Alderman Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:38

Okay. Your last line, "if they're a competent electrician," do you have to make that evaluation before?

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 02:43

No, you'd have to be a journeyman; you have to be licensed. Then when I say competent means you're licensed and you're certified with the state.

Alderman Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:50

Okay. Any questions from committee? All right, we have a motion on the table. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes four nothing.

Alderman Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:04

Our next action item 25-0832, request to approve proposed text amendments to the Municipal Code, Chapter Four, buildings, section 4-22 authority to prescribe additional rules and regulations and section 4-24 violations generally penalty, and chapter 12, nuisances, section 12232 abatement, generally, as identified in the attached document. Inspector Craanen, can you please put that in English for me?

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 03:31

This is basically just housekeeping. We want to make it clear in the code that the inspection supervisor has the authority to issue citations. It just spells it out, like, we can issue citations rather than enforce the code and issue orders.

Alderman Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:47

Was that something that didn't—sorry. District, what?

Darrin Glad (Assistant City Attorney) 03:55

Yeah, this really came at a request, kind of from our office. It's always been defensible. It's always been the practice that they've been issuing the citations, but it wasn't explicitly laid out. And that came to our attention when Kurt was doing the other chapter four rewrites. I approached him and asked him to if we could make some of these all in one while we're poking around chapter four.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 04:18

So, let me just—your staff were able to write—what's the word? Citations? But technically it was never spelled out that you as a supervisor could do that.

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 04:30

No.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 04:30

Okay. And that really what's—

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 04:32

Really, my position, it has the authority to take action issue citations, and then my designees also.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 04:37

Okay.

Supervisor Kurt Craanen (Inspections) 04:38

So, we're—it's all through me, and then through them.

Darrin Glad (Assistant City Attorney) 04:41

Elsewhere in the code, it's spelled out that the Director of Public Works could issue citations. And then perhaps when they moved out of Public Works and into Com Dev, there may have been an assumption. The statute would still allow for Public Works to designate Kurt to do it for that, but we just wanted to make it explicit. And no, no, you know, no mistake about it, he can issue citations.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:06

And there's no need then to make the director of C—CDC, need to have the authority?

Darrin Glad (Assistant City Attorney) 05:14

Not at this time. We—

Darrin Glad (Assistant City Attorney) 05:15

Yeah.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:15

Okay.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:15

Any other questions from committee?

Unclear Which Staffer Is Speaking 05:19

Don't have a motion yet.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 05:21

Move to approve.

Alderson Josh Lambrecht (District 1) 05:22

Second.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:22

You ask; we provide. All right now that we have a motion we have explanation, let's go ahead and vote. All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That passes four zero.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:40

We have no information items. That moves us on to our last.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 05:45

Move to adjourn.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:46

Second.

Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 05:47

All those in favor signify by saying aye. Aye. Four nothing passes. We are adjourned. Thank you.

Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:53

Thank you.