



**MINUTES
CITY OF HARRISONVILLE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
WORK SESSION
CITY HALL
JANUARY 4, 2022
6:30 PM**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM by Mayor Judy Bowman.

2. Present

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Bill Mills	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Mike Zaring	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Sandy Franklin	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Dave Doerhoff	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Marcia Milner	Harrisonville	Board Member	Remote	
Judy Reece	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Gary Davidson	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Matt Turner	Harrisonville	Board Member	Present	
Judy Bowman	Harrisonville	Mayor	Present	

Others present: City Administrator Brad Ratliff, Public Works Director/City Engineer Carl Brooks, Electric Superintendent Andy Pollard, Parks Director Grant Purkey, Building Official Chris Arthur, Code Enforcement Officer Katie Phelps and City Clerk Daniel Barnett - recording.

3. Discussion Items

A. Municipal Code discussion for waste definitions

Building Official Arthur spoke to the Board about how solid waste was defined and the potential First Amendment conflicts that could arise based on that definition. Arthur spoke to the growing movement for 'yard art' and artistic expression in the United States. Arthur also spoke to cases in other states regarding similar 'content-based' issues.

Arthur provided a couple of 'yard art' examples throughout the community.

Arthur asked the Board if they wished for the Code Enforcement Department to remove all 'yard-art' items from homes and businesses in Harrisonville.

Alderman Zaring asked about the possibility of reviewing the sections of City Code that define trash, rubbish and refuse and potentially removing unnecessary pieces of code.

Arthur said he recommends that the City not pursue removing the item in question from a resident's property.

Several Board members shared that they would not support pursuing removing the item in question.

Alderman Doerhoff said he did not feel that the item promotes the beautification of the community, especially on a major street.

City Attorney Mauer informed the Board that City ordinance supersedes the argument of artistic expression. Mauer said the argument would be based upon the context of the item or issue in question.

Alderman Davidson asked if the ordinance regarding the definitions should be more specific.

Mauer said he does not think it would be possible to write an ordinance that fully encompasses all items that could be used as 'yard art'.

Mayor Bowman echoed Mauer's point about the need for context when examining each item or issue.

A consensus of the Board was reached for the Code Enforcement Department to handle each issue regarding 'yard art' based upon context.

A motion to adjourn from the Work Session was made by Alderman Doerhoff, with a second from Alderwoman Reece. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

RESULT:	DISCUSSION
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Judy Bowman, Mayor & Ex-Officio
Chairman of the Board of Aldermen

ATTEST:

Daniel Barnett, City Clerk