



Common Council Report

Agenda Item: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Ordinance #497 Amending Section 26-72 Regulating Mowing of Weeds and Grasses
Meeting Date: June 7, 2022
Presenter: Mark Langer, Public Works Director
Department: City Hall

Conformance with Strategic Plan:

- Affordability & Financial Stability
- Safe, Inclusive, Welcoming Community
- Diverse Opportunities for Fun and Life-Long Learning
- High Performing Organization with Professional Staff
- Environment for Business Success with Thoughtful Growth and Development

Summary

Staff requests the Council review Section 26-72 regulating mowing of weeds and grasses revising the accepted delivery of notice that the property is no longer in compliance with the ordinance.

Analysis and Key Issues

Article V, Sec. 26-72 references the process the City follows to mow weeds and wild growth that exceeds one foot in height. The ordinance requires the commissioner to send a certified letter and allow for five days from the date of the notice to commence prior to the City mowing the property.

Staff has received concerns from residents that this is not always the most effective way to provide notice and limits the available time to correct the violation. The proposed ordinance revises the language to provide staff the ability to utilize multiple delivery options to provide notice to the owner and/or tenants of the property. This may include door hangers, letters mailed to the owner of a vacant premise, or serve personally to the owner.

This is very similar to the discussion the Common Council had earlier this year regarding the shoveling of sidewalks. At that time, the Council indicated the preferred method of communication with residents would be a “door hanger” and that staff should no longer utilize the Certified Letter approach. Staff would like to remain consistent with the “written notice” methods, and therefore would like to mirror the process for mowing to the process previously approved by the Council for snow removal.

Fiscal Impact



As of June 2, the City has spent a total of \$395.82 to send certified letters to property owners in violation of the ordinance during the 2022 mowing season.

Recommended Motion

Staff recommends adopting Ordinance #2022-497 – Amend Section 26-72 Regulating Mowing of Weed and Grasses

Attachments

- Ordinance #2022-497 – Amend Section 26-72 Regulating Mowing of Weeds and Grasses