Village of Spring Valley, Wisconsin Ordinance Committee July 22, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. at the Village Hall.

Members Present: O'Connell, Erickson, Huepfel (late)

Absent:

Staff present: Emerson, Lilly

Other's present: Nate Pelz representing the food truck operator, Heather Landin local restaurant owner.

- Planning Commission verbiage for Ordinance book: Rich had an example of what a Planning Commission Ordinance could look like for Chapter 2 Administration of the Village Code of Ordinances. Emerson will clean it up to more closely coincide with current committee ordinance structure and present at the next Ordinance mtg.
- 2. Food truck ordinance A letter was presented to committee members and others present from the owner of a locally owned food truck who is trying to establish themselves in the community as another food option. They currently operate on private property. Erickson started by reminding the committee that food trucks used to be under Solicitors Permit Ordinance and the current guidelines specific to food trucks aren't working. Ellsworth as well as many other municipalities still operate under this Solicitor Permit structure. Emerson stated the differences between out-of-town food trucks on Village streets and the local owner of a permanent food truck who is located on private property: They pay rent to that local business owner and will be donating some profits back to the community. The potential for permit fees is greater than some tax revenue currently being generated. Food trucks are currently limited to 2 per week and not on the same day, 5 hours maximum open time so as not to interfere with two meal times, fee for non-profits is waived. Emerson stated she hears frequently that there are residents who would like to see more food trucks in town more often, and food trucks offer benefits other than tax dollars such as brining people to town, a sense of community, and offering residents variety. City of Eau Claire provided a space for their Food Truck Friday and they advertise the event in order to get people to their downtown. Regulating a food truck on private property would be no different than regulating a food truck who would be in a resident's yard for graduation or wedding. Different food trucks offer variety to residents and would bring people to town who may not otherwise come. Another restaurant owner in town stated that two of the days the new food truck operates cuts into her breakfast time offering on Saturdays and Sundays. Restaurant owner said she could offer a S/S deal if she could have café table and chairs on the sidewalk. Another suggestion made was to limit the distance a food truck can operate from the front door of a restaurant-type business. Other business models are not limited as to outsiders. i.e. when storm damage occurs our ordinance does not limit out-of-town contractors simply because there are local contractors who offer that same service. Motion (Erickson/O'Connell) to return food truck regulation back to Solicitors Ordinance until specific guidelines and verbiage can be agreed upon by the committee and full Board. Vote: Ayes: Erickson, Huepfel, O'Connell. Nays: none. This will be on the next Ordinance committee agenda.
- Street Use Permits will be enforced per the Ordinance: one per organization per year, they are for non-profits only, for-profit businesses are not eligible for Street Use Permits. Café permits will be discussed at the next committee meeting.