

Code Enforcement Officer Report
December 2010

December started with another Municipal Court Hearing on the Spruce Street Transient rental situation. The City has been successful and has been awarded 63 out of 65 citations with full forfeiture, \$645 per citation.

The defendant has appealed the first 13-recorded guilty verdicts to the County Circuit Court. The City's law firm is handling this.

The defendant also filed two Small Claims Court charges against a neighbor and me. We have not been officially served on these charges.

The City also won a nuisance charge for a violation of keeping of poultry within the 100-foot zone. No forfeiture was requested or awarded.

Other Code Enforcement items:

1. I was a witness in the Driftwood/Marine neighbor-to-neighbor Circuit Court Hearing.
2. There are several vacation rentals on West 4th Street and Ocean View Drive that have their garbage cans regularly raided. I cleaned up the garbage. I suggest bear-poof garbage cans available from Dahl's.
3. I talked to Lion's Club Officers regarding the sandwich board sign on the corner of 4th Street and Highway 101. There is some question as to whether such signage was grandfathered in when this Ordinance was amended. I am researching that.
4. I attended the City Council work session.
5. I tagged a vehicle parked in the driveway of the Master Gardener's garden on west 7th Street (private property). The vehicle was moved to the Presbyterian Church parking lot. I finally talked to the son of the vehicle's owner. They are staying at the Dublin House. I explained the parking regulations. There have been no further problems.
6. I attended the City Council meeting.
7. There were two vehicles parked at 380 Spruce Street. I attempted to contact the occupants, but a service vehicle working at the Glass House blocked Spruce Street.
8. Most Transient Rental permits have been renewed. There was some confusion on the request for a diagram of the designated parking areas. Inspection of 25 to 30 of the Transient Rentals has started.
9. I continue to do daily monitoring of the Transient Rentals on Spruce Street and East 2nd Street. I also do weekly monitoring of Quiet Water and Horizon Hill

10. Contractor activity has slowed due to weather conditions. Business License renewals are coming in.

11. I have received several complaints regarding loud music and drumming on West 1st Street. I contacted the occupant and requested lowering the volume. I will follow-up on this.

12. I was contacted by a resident on East 3rd Street regarding a temporary, partial blockage of the street for delivery of landscaping materials. I was assured it would be removed in a timely manner and would not block access.

13. I received a call from a resident of illegal dumping at the end of West 2nd Street on the ocean bluff. I documented the garbage. It appeared to be kitchen garbage. The resident found a video store card with an account number on it. I was able to get the name and address of the account holder. I contacted the Sheriff's office and they transferred the call to the State Police. I talked to the State Police officer and gave him the information. The officer was down here within an hour and following up on the investigation.

This has been an interesting first year in this position. Even though it was dominated by the Spruce Street Transient Rental situation, I believe there has been good progress in enforcing City Ordinances and gaining citizen support. I look forward to the New Year for continuing cooperation.

Donald W .Niskanen
Code Enforcement Officer