

December 3, 2004

To the Public Improvements Committee

Subject: Common Council Resolution File Number 031692

Dear Honorable Members:

Returned herewith is Common Council Resolution File Number 031692, which is an amendment that formally changes the name of the grantee to New Arcade, LLC for the encroachment of several items into the public right-of-way for the premises at 275 West Wisconsin Avenue. These items include brick pavers and eight harp lights in the sidewalk area of North Plankinton Avenue. In addition, this resolution grants permission for a pair of new signs on the parking structures located at 176 West Michigan Street and 615 North 2nd Street and continues permission for eight tree grates and twelve tree grates with tree guards on West Michigan Street, between North Plankinton Avenue and approximately 180 feet north of North 2nd street. The Special Privilege Petition also indicated an intent to construct a new entrance canopy at 161 West Wisconsin Avenue. It appears, however, that the necessary designs and other decisions for this structure have not been finalized, to date, and therefore that item may become an item for a future special privilege amendment.

Permission for eight harp lights, four on West Wisconsin Avenue and four on North Plankinton Avenue, and for brick pavers in the sidewalk area of North Plankinton Avenue was granted in 1996 under Common Council Resolution File Number 960894. New Arcade, LLC, the new name of the owner, requested permission for two new signs to demarcate the entrances to the parking structures located at 615 North 2nd Street and 176 West Michigan Street. These signs are approximately 17 feet wide. The sign located in the west sidewalk area of North Plankinton Avenue projects approximately 8 feet 6 inches and provides approximately 8 feet 5 inches of vertical clearance. The sign located in the west sidewalk area of North 2nd Street projects approximately 8 feet 5 inches and provides approximately 8 feet 2 inches of vertical clearance. These projections and clearances are not in compliance with Section 244-10, hence the need for a special privilege. In addition to the aforementioned items, a site visit revealed the presence of 12 round tree grates with tree guards, and 8 round tree grates without tree guards uniformly spaced in the northern sidewalk area of West Michigan Street, between North Plankinton Avenue and approximately 180 feet west of North 2nd Street.

During our most recent field viewing, it became observationally evident that the location of a recently remodeled loading dock and its increased type of usage created a situation where semi-trailer trucks extend into the right-of-way of North Plankinton Avenue during unloading

To the Public Improvements Committee
December 3, 2004
Page 2

operations. There is a similar dock toward the North 2nd Street side of this building. It appears to be located far enough away so that trucks are only on private property. This is what we call a backup driveway. Permission for this to occur is now also included in the resolution.

We are not aware that the presence of said items within the public rights-of-way have had any adverse effects on the use of the public right-of-way. We have, therefore, prepared the attached resolution, which, if adopted, will change the name of the grantee and grant permission for two new signs, twelve round tree grates with tree guards and eight round tree grates without tree guards.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

Martin G. Collins
Commissioner
Department of Neighborhood Services

MDL:cjt

Attachment