

July 22, 2009

To the Public Works Committee

Subject: Common Council Resolution File Number 090372  
Honorary Street Name Request  
West North Avenue between North 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
and North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to Reuben K. Harpole, Jr.

Dear Honorable Members:

This letter is in reply to a notice dated July 7, 2009 regarding a request for an honorary street name on West North Avenue.

Chapter 113-3 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances provides the guidelines to consider when reviewing honorary street name requests. The guidelines provided in the code have been reviewed and the following comments are offered.

Reuben K. Harpole, Jr. will celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in September of this year. The 100 block of West North Avenue is the current residence of his mother, Mardee Harpole. The biography submitted on his behalf explains his community work within the Milwaukee area. His work included helping to either create or develop many community-based programs including the UWM Center for Urban Community Development, the Harambee Community Development Corporation, the Black Holocaust Museum, and the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center. Additionally, he helped to establish the Helen Bader Foundation's Sankofa-Youth Development Program.

The request to honor Reuben K. Harpole, Jr. with an honorary street name of "Reuben K Harpole Jr" includes 19 letters and spaces. There is not a limit to 13 letters/spaces as with an official street name change request; however, the letters will be a smaller size to fit the standard honorary street sign space.

Two blue honorary street signs are required and will be mounted at North 1st Street and North 2nd Street. The signs will be mounted below the West North Avenue sign in the east-west orientation at each location. The existing official street signs at each location will remain. The petitioner may choose to furnish the honorary street signs but they must be fabricated to established City guidelines. The City can fabricate the signs at \$50 each. In either case, the City will install the honorary street signs at a cost of \$50 per sign.

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The petitioner is to deposit \$100 to the City if they furnish the two signs or \$200 if the City fabricates and installs the signs. If a sign needs to be replaced in the future, the City is to be notified of the missing or damaged sign and the petitioner is to cover the cost to fabricate and mount the sign as described above with the initial installation. The City's cost to fabricate and install future signs is subject to change.

Provided that the honorary street name request meets the established design criteria and that the Department of Public Works does not incur any costs as a result of this action, we can support this resolution.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.  
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes  
Commissioner of Public Works

MGL:slm

Attachment

c: Legislative Reference Bureau