

**Eastlake City Council
Ordinance Committee Meeting
September 9, 2025
6:00 p.m.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Councilman Gulley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All members of Council present. From Administration- Mayor Overstreet, Law Director Klammer, CBO Menn.

There are 5 items on the agenda. They start with Billboard signage discussion. He opens the floor to Ms. Krajnyak. Mr. Semick says from his point of view, we should probably not allow any more billboards. Krajnyak agrees. Mr. Gulley asks what would be needed? How would we limit it? Mr. Semick says what we have is decent but we need to put a stop to them probably.

Klammer says we didn't use to allow them. Maybe in 2018 when the sound barriers went up, we changed the Ordinance. If you want to go back to every sign being related to the premises or do a moratorium.

Fire Chief Kovacic and Service Director Gorentz arrive.

Klammer says it would be easy to go back to the way it was.

Krajnyak refers to the Comprehensive plan. It distracts drivers and does not look good.

Klammer says we probably allowed it because the sound barriers obstructed the view of business.

Krajnyak says we can put a moratorium on signs themselves so no one comes in in the meantime. She says her and Randy spoke about signage before and maybe it would be good to look at it as a whole in the City. She says a lot of it does not make sense. With like businesses for vape shops or this....
Unaesthetic.

Klammer says whatever you want to do, but we cannot stop the existing ones.

Menn says that he gets a lot of calls about freeway signs and tries to say no.

Gulley calls for questions from Council or anyone here.

Schmidt says she is fine with a moratorium but who is tracking it?

Menn agrees it needs someone to track it.

Schmidt says no blame on anyone.

Krajnyak asks the Council Clerk if she can keep track of it on the computer? Yes.

Gulley asks what an appropriate period of time should be?

Menn asks if a CUP comes up again and Council votes No. What do we do then?

There is discussion about if another situation arises with a transfer such as at last Council meeting.

Klammer says that they could just sell the business.

Menn says if they want to sell the sign, what do we do with the sign?

Klammer says if they come in and say we want to transfer but Council does not approve it, they still have their original CUP and still own the billboard.

Krajnyak says she doesn't feel that it should be able to be transferred.

Meyers says the moratorium is only on new ones, not to get rid of the existing.

Krajnyak says going forward... but that is her personally so never mind.

Klammer says they have the right to apply for the transfer at least. A lot of banks won't lend if your CUP requires a renewal.

Gulley says maybe a moratorium on new construction?

Gulley calls for a motion for a 5 year moratorium on new billboard construction.

Schmidt yes, Kostelnik second. Yeas unanimous.

Second item on the agenda is related to ebikes and scooters. Ms. Krajnyak has passed out something to Council. She was looking at electric bikes and also gas powered midget bikes as well as mini bikes. They are way out of control. Grown ups and little kids are using them and they are flying down the street. There were accidents with the ebikes lately too. She looked at Bay Village. Willowick is fashioning theirs after Bay Village per Chief Daubenmire as well. It is very general. She would like to see it look more like Bay Village. If they are on the sidewalks, it is causing problems for people walking. They also have the ability to change them or manipulate them to go faster. Bay Village really addressed it super well.

Klammer says it makes sense if Eastlake, Willowick, and Willoughby were all the same.

Krajnyak says she has been talking to Willowick closely to see what they are doing with their Ordinances.

Semick says our Ordinance mirrors the Ohio one, but he feels it should be more robust.

Klammer asks if they were sidewalk accidents or on the street?

Semick says some of both. There have been a few... they list locations. He asked Chief to step up patrol in the area due to that. He left his notes in the car because he wanted the Chief to be here.

Klammer says he will check to see what Willowick's Law Director was doing.

Krajnyak was at the Safety Meeting in Willowick also.

Semick says it comes to an educational campaign maybe.

They move onto item #3.

Krajnyak says Halo Law is Originally put in HB 20 and further changed in the Senate. It's a helpful thing for Fire and Police. It basically creates a buffer around Police and Fire which allows them to conduct their business with a safe zone around them. It does not infringe on people's rights to record or anything. She feels it keeps Fire and Police focused on what they are doing without worrying about how close people are.

Klammer says did you see a footage in HB20?

Krajnyak says it was 14' but they upped the consequence to a first misdemeanor but took footage out. Municipalities cannot make it lighter but they can make it tougher. She doesn't think we have a huge problem in this City. Police have the ability to say you're obstructing justice. It does help with good Samaritans as well. It's out of respect.

Gulley asks if Chief Kovacic has any input. He sees no problem with it other than enforcement and education. From a staffing perspective, he does not have the people to enforce it and he believes PD might be the same. He believes the gesture is great, but the application might have some holes.

Krajnyak says it gives the ability to say you need to step back.

Klammer says maybe it is a task for the Safety Director.

Krajnyak says most places that have implemented it have had good results.

Klammer says that Safety Director should be added to the definition for Service Responder.

Kasunick asks what we are proposing?

Klammer says he will find the existing Ordinance and probably expand it. They decide on 25'.

Kasunick says he does not see a reason for the distance, it seems arbitrary with existing legislation for the item. He feels this is something a Court would toss out and would be almost impossible to enforce.

Gulley says he wants to make sure First Responders were included on the legislation we already have. Official Business could be anything.

Krajnyak says it is always enforceable the same way the law is enforceable.

Kostelnik says if two officers are responding to the accident and people are crowding are they going to call two more to have people back up 25'?

This law has not passed at a State level yet. Kasunick references the ORC.

Klammer says he feels it should be an amendment to the obstruction.

Kasunick says from public perception standpoint, he feels this could be an issue. If the perception is that this is to inhibit that... maybe would add to mistrust. Not so much the Fire Department, but Police situations may be different. Nobody is mentioning any particular case they are trying to stop. Has there been an instance where you tell someone to stand back and they don't?

Overstreet says yes. If tempers are hot, they don't always listen.

Krajnyak says every scene has a gun even if it's just theirs. It is really more a respect thing. It's doing well in Florida.

Kasunick says the situation Overstreet is referring to, they won't respect this anyway.

Semick asks if that still falls under the existing? Yes.

Klammer says he sees Jason's point.

Krajnyak says if we were worried about that, we should have approved body cams 5-7 years ago.

Schmidt says she is concerned about the 25'. It seems excessive. She does not know what a good footage is.

Semick says it should be at discretion of officers.

Gulley says wait til Werner can be here.

Klammer says maybe look at existing Ordinances and then just change the definition.

Gulley says they move onto the 4th item. Prowling Ordinance is not needed and was removed per Chief Werner.

Nuisance Property is the next item.

Krajnyak says we have looked at this multiple times in the years. Once again, Willowick Chief got something in front of Safety Committee. Because of the problem with multiple nuisance calls to one particular property. They lose money going to those calls. Most cities have 3 call limit per year and then a fee after that. She spoke with Jennifer Swallow in Lakewood. Willowick is utilizing Lakewood's laws. They are fantastic. She sent an email for that. After second call, dispatch can notify officer that they are on the third call. All officers have discretion. There's a whole series of what classifies as nuisance. Loose dogs.. barking... fighting... public drunkenness. On third call could be billed. If they couldn't pay, it would be on taxes. Could go for every Director. Willowick is looking to do Police, Fire, and Building. Trying to get a feeler for what we are thinking of it. Police are spending a lot of time going to the same addresses. Lakewood developed it in 2008 and only had one appeal. Willowick is planning on Safety Committee being the appeal board. There are a lot of different ways to do it.

Gulley asks if any Directors present would like to add?

Gorentz says Service doesn't get too involved in nuisance calls.

Menn says there are a few houses he could do it with, but sounds like this is more for Police than Building. They have discretion also whether to enforce certain things but he doesn't think everyone knows that. It could work... he has never seen it happen like this. Almost like Mayor's Court. Would County allow that?

Klammer says he is not super comfortable with the format they have.

Krajnyak says it doesn't have to be that specific. Some places are just a blanket \$150 per call after 3 calls.

Menn says he could have that in a week.

Klammer says the problem is any noise or drug violation... you would likely want a conviction before you penalize them on their taxes.

Krajnyak says one of the things nuisance laws do too, it also works against the person calling if excessive and up to officer discretion.

Gulley says sometimes there are tenants causing problems for landlords.

Lakewood said 9 times out of 10 once they send the letter pertaining to this, what ends up happening is that it is suddenly fixed.

Klammer says in the years he has been here, he doesn't remember an alcohol, sex, or prostitution violation... we could take out a bunch of those. What are we trying to hit?

There is discussion about talking to Finance regarding who would collect the money.

Meyers says he wants to see hard numbers from the Chief about how many houses is this actually a problem with?

Menn says \$150 fine isn't a lot.

The decision is made to continue this discussion at another time when Werner is available. This item was tabled.

Last item is for soliciting permits.

Semick says we cannot ban it because that's a First Amendment violation. He wants to speak to the Chief more.

Overstreet says religious and political are exempt. Several years ago, we banned ice cream trucks. What is the difference with a solicitor?

Krajnyak says it does not go against rights. You can ban it.

Klammer says you cannot blanket ban.

Krajnyak says yes you can.

Klammer says maybe for money, but not commercial sales.

Krajnyak says there are a lot of places that do not give permits for it.

Klammer says during Covid it came up... they could get sued.

Overstreet says none this year.

Semick says in the past couple years.

Krajnyak says if you don't want to ban them altogether, that's okay. Chief had a question about if ATT comes in and pays \$150, now they contract with a third party and they have 30 canvassing the City now.

Klammer asks if we do background searches as a part of the fee? We can only charge a fee that equals are reasonable costs.

Semick says that anything we put in place would only hurt the parent company.

Gorentz says that just the other day, people were at the door.

Semick says the person going door to door should have identification on as well as on the vehicle.

Schmidt says Kirtland does a program with \$150 app. They post who has permits and give them badges with their pictures on them and then post them on social. It is costly to do, but maybe that is someone to reach out to to see how this is working and what is involved because it seems like they have a good program.

Gulley opens discussion up to the members of the public.

Laura DePledge says she wonders how the Halo Law would apply in the instance of protest. Something to consider.

Another resident asks if they still do the Do Not Knock program? She has a sticker on her door.

They believe it should be renewed every year.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.



JOHN MEYERS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED: 12/19/25

ATTEST: 

ALYSSA MORAN, CLERK OF COUNCIL