

Street Name Change from 1st Street W to Reverend Henry T Rhim

Ms. Fales began the presentation by explaining that under Section 745.104(d), all public street name changes require review by the 911 Emergency Addressing Advisory Committee. The purpose of the review is to determine if the proposed renaming could create a problem for the emergency response system.

She continued by stating that Ordinance 2019-128, sponsored by Council Members Gaffney and Gulliford, seeks to rename a portion of 1st Street West, extending from Jefferson Street North to Pearl Street North, to "Reverend Henry T Rhim Blvd" in honor of St Joseph Missionary Baptist Church's Pastor, Reverend Rhim.

Ms. Fales displayed a map showing the location of the proposed street renaming and showed three addresses assigned from the street. One of the addresses is for the Church itself and the other two properties are owned by First Florida Credit Union.

She explained that letters would be sent to notify the property owners addressed from the road and the owners will have an opportunity to consent or object to the proposed renaming. Seventy five percent of the property owners will need to consent for the street renaming in order for approval, unless this requirement is waived.

The Committee was informed that the proposed renaming has been heard by Historic Preservation and they have determined that there are no historic impacts and therefore recommended approval. Ms. Fales then proceeded with a review of the requirements for street name approval and street renaming.

She identified requirements associated with the length or number of character spaces in the name, requirements to rename the entire length of the road, criteria for renaming roads after individuals. These criteria include; (1) a significant, positive contribution to local community; (2) the individual is deceased (3) and that the individual has lived within 5 miles of the location for at least 10 years.

Ms. Fales stated that the inclusion of an abbreviation within the name may be an issue for the Committee, although the abbreviation of "T" would not be confused as a directional. Abbreviations may still cause a problem due to the opportunity for abbreviations to be entered differently.

Chairman McCoy opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Quintanilla noted several reasons for not approving the ordinance however they had already been waived by City Council.

Ms. Rosenfeld asked "why does the ordinance have to come before us if everything is waived"?

OGC Representative Cherry Pollock explained legislation is usually filed before it comes to the 911 committee.

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JSO Representative Lori Leonard asked "do we have authority to override what's been waived"?

OGC Representative Cherry Pollock explained, we can vote to approve or disapprove.

Mr. Kolczynski mentioned that once a street name exceeds fourteen character spaces, Traffic Engineering will need to start shrinking the size of the letters on the street sign. There are 21 letters in the street name itself including the spaces. The letters are going to be pretty small on the street sign.

Mr. Quintanilla identified that he believed that the issue concerning sign readability poses a safety issue.

Ms. Rosenfeld stated that she could see where people would just begin to abbreviate the name and just say Reverend Rhim rather than stating the whole name.

Mr. Green stated that it would not make a difference. He explained that no one really types out a full name in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. They type in the first few letters and then allow the system to perform the search for the name.

Ms. Leonard explained that the only other thing that she could see is that if someone from out of town had an accident in the location and the last sign they saw said 1st Street W. they could identify their location incorrectly.

Ms. Rosenfeld mentioned that mailers cannot handle anything longer than thirty character spaces in their database. In most instances a street name of 26 characters (such as this) would exceed the character space allowance, however in this instance the combined address number, street name and street type is exactly 30 character spaces.

Chairman McCoy asked for a motion to accept Ordinance 2019-128.

Vice Chairman Green made the motion, it was seconded and the vote passed with 1 nay.