

SPECIAL ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 3, 2022, 4:30 P.M.
Meeting Room 1, City Hall West
131 North Main Street, Second Floor Bristol, CT

ATTENDEES: Susan Tyler, Cheryl Thibeault, Sebastian Panioto

ABSENT: - - -

STAFF PRESENT: Thomas Conlin, Assistant Corporation Counsel

NOTE: SEBASTIAN PANIOTO WAS APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE IN PLACE OF JACQUINE OLSEN AT THE DECEMBER CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

COUNCIL MEMBER: ---

1. The Ordinance Committee was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Chairwoman Tyler.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. December 6, 2022

Councilwoman Thibeault made a motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 2022, seconded by Councilman Panioto. All present voted in favor – Motion passed.

3. Public Participation

Lindsey Rivers, Department of Public Works requested that some wording be changed in the Shopping Cart Ordinance to add “baskets”. She stated that she is having issues with CVS complying with the Ordinance and refusing to submit a shopping cart policy because they only have 9 carts. The Ordinance states you have to submit a plan if you have 10 or more carts. Councilman Panioto asked if she has reached out to Corporate officers or regional managers which she has not. Councilwoman Thibeault suggested taking out the number of carts in the Ordinance. Attorney Conlin stated that he would draft something for the next meeting.

4. Old Business
 - a. Noise Ordinance Sec. 15-16 et. seq.

Chairwoman Tyler stated she received an email from Laura Carter regarding the noise quality in her neighborhood which is created by Bristol Hospital. She stated that the noise levels are high and adding the fuel cell at Bristol Hospital will only make it worse. Councilwoman Thibeault met with Ms. Carter at her home to address Ms. Carter’s complaint. Ms. Thibeault told her she would look into the fuel cell issue, but in the meantime she would have Lt. Osbourne come up and measure the noise level.

No action taken.

b. Peddler's license fee (Draft)

Councilwoman Tyler stated that Attorney Conlin redrafted the Peddler's license fee to reduce the \$250 amount to \$185 and add a \$15.00 application fee to make it a total of \$250.

Councilman Panioto made a motion to accept the redrafted language and submit to the City Council a Motion to Introduce and set a public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Thibeault. All present voted in favor – Motion passed.

c. Cannabis usage restrictions in public areas (Draft)

Attorney Conlin stated that he researched other towns to see if they had any language that the City could use. He provided an Ordinance from Norwalk that covered sidewalks and roads for the Committee to review.

Discussion was had regarding enforcement of an Ordinance that restricts public use. Chairwoman Tyler also suggested that she would contact the CT State's Attorney's office for guidance.

No action taken.

d. Air quality issues

Councilwoman Tyler stated that she has no new status of the permit. Once she receives any information she will email it to the Committee.

No action taken.

e. Removal of Elected & Appointed Officials

Attorney Conlin stated that he researched Ordinances and Charter provisions from area towns and some covered only elected officials and some only covered appointed officials. He has provided the information to the Committee for their review and discussion at the next meeting.

No action taken.

5. New Business

a. Donation Drop Boxes Sec. 21-13 - Penalties

Attorney Conlin stated that he added this to the agenda because of an email from Ray Rogozinski, Director of Public Works concerning infractions for overflowing drop boxes. Ed Spyros, Zoning Enforcement Officer stated that he couldn't give an infraction, only the police could. The Committee asked if he could give a citation to the drop box owners. Mr. Spyros didn't feel it was the owner's fault when people drive by at 3:00 am and drop their items at the foot of the drop boxes. He stated that once it is overflowing, he could issue a letter to the company to have them remove the items and if they don't he could give a citation.

No action taken.

b. Adoption of 2023 Meeting Calendar

The Committee changed their meeting time from 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm and the location will now be at City Hall West Meeting room 1 instead of at the Library.

Councilman Panioto made a motion to approve the 2023 Calendar, seconded by Councilwoman Thibeault. All present voted in favor – Motion passed.

6. Committee member comments

7. Adjournment

Councilwoman Thibeault made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. seconded by Councilman Panioto. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Noelle Bates
Recording Secretary