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#### **TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

## 740 MAIN STREET

TOWN CLERK EAST HARTFORD

# EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

FEBRUARY 19, 2019

#### PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE REVISIONS: CHAPTER 2 AND CHAPTER 10

**PRESENT** 

Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Linda A. Russo, Majority Leader Ram Aberasturia, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc Weinberg,

Shelby Brown, Patricia Harmon and Caroline Torres

ABSENT

Councillor Joseph Carlson

Chair Kehoe called the public hearing to order at 7:15 p.m.

Please publish the following legal notice in the EH Gazette on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Mail bill to the East Hartford Town Council Office, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, CT

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut, will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday**, **February 19**, **2019 at 7:00p.m.** in the Town Council Chambers, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut, to hear public comment on the proposed revisions to the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances as follows:

- Conflict of Interest; Inactive Boards/Commissions Chapter 2, Sections 2-1, 2-24, 2-45 through 2-53, 2-61 through 2-66, 2-70 through 2-72 and 2-74 through 2-78
- 2. Section 10-30c "Gold Star Families Property Tax Exemption"
- 3. Section 10-6a "On-call Service Contracts"

Any person(s) wishing to express an opinion on this matter may do so at this meeting. Copies of the proposed ordinance are on file in the Town Clerk's Office and the Town Council's Office.

Angela Attenello
Town Council Clerk

<u>Chair Kehoe</u> reviewed the history of the revisions to the Code of Ordinances. He explained that the Conflict of Interest ordinance allows a town employee to serve on an adjudicatory board but prohibits participation on matters involving someone with whom they have had

an official interaction as a town employee. The Gold Star families' property tax exemption will provide tax relief to the parent of a child killed in the line of duty or to the surviving spouse of a person killed in the line of duty, based on income parameters. The On Call Service contract limit was increased by \$50,000 to a cap of \$150,000 due to the rate of inflation.

The following individuals came forward:

Susan Kniep, 44-46 and 50 Olde Roberts Street, had concerns on (1) the on call service contract ordinance should not allow a vendor to represent both the town and a private party; (2) believes that the revisions to the conflict of interest ordinance should be approved by the town's unions; (3) the word "donations" in #5 of Section 2-1 should be eliminated; (4) the ordinance should clearly define what Boards or Commissions fall under this ordinance; (5) state law mandates that municipal employees cannot serve on a board or commission that deals with zoning, land use or planning powers; (6) strongly believes that a town police officer who serves on ZBA should not be allowed to be on that Board; and (7) asked that the Council not approve these revisions to the Code of Ordinances but, if approved, asked that the Mayor not sign-off on these revisions.

<u>Donald Sugalski</u>, 1736 Main Street, had concerns on (1) #12 of Section 2-4 which states that a member of a board or commission shall serve until a successor has been sworn in. Mr. Sugalski thinks that is too open-ended and that a three or six month time limit should be considered; and (2) the word "donations" in #5 of Section 2-1 should be eliminated.

### **ADJOUNTMENT**

MOTION

By Esther Clarke seconded by Linda Russo to adjourn (7:40 p.m.). Motion carried 8/0.

Angela M. A

Town Council Clerk