

TOWN COUNCIL MAJORITY OFFICE

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

MAY 2, 2019

PRESENT Rich Kehoe, Chair; Councillors Linda Russo and Esther Clarke

ALSO Rich Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel

PRESENT Scott Sansom, Chief of Police

RECEIVED  
MAY 06, 2019 at 08:36:08 AM  
Robert J. Pasek  
Town Clerk  
EAST HARTFORD, CT

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 15, 2019 Meeting

MOTION By Esther Clarke  
seconded by Linda Russo  
to **approve** the April 15, 2019 meeting minutes.  
Motion carried 3/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

None

OLD BUSINESS

Chapter 21 – Parking

The Chair explained that this meeting would focus on three parking issues: (1) overnight parking; (2) parking vehicles on residential properties, but not on a driveway; and (3) parking commercial vehicles on residential properties and on the street.

Overnight Parking

The existing ordinance prohibits parking on town roads between 2:00 A.M. and 5:00 A.M. Currently, the ordinance is enforced by the Police Department, mainly upon complaints. Warnings tend to be issued first, prior to a parking ticket being issued. The Committee determined that it would be helpful if the ordinance had a list of findings, explaining why the town prohibits overnight parking, which the Committee agreed to draft. The Committee

debated extending the hours from 2 A.M. to 5 A.M. to 1 A.M. to 5 A.M., but felt that the existing prohibition was fair and enforceable. The Committee will work with Corporation Counsel's office to create a draft that will explain the reasons for the Ordinance.

#### Parking Vehicles on Residential Properties – Not on a Driveway

The Police Department currently enforces some of these provisions in the Code of Ordinances which were recently amended by the Town Council (February 2018). It was determined that the Inspections & Permits Department has some concerns with regard to enforcing the zoning ordinances relative to parking on residential property. The Committee agreed to discuss with Inspections & Permits their concerns and whether those concerns should be addressed in Ordinance or in the Zoning Regulations.

#### Parking Commercial Vehicles On Residential Property And Street.

The Committee discussed creating a definition of undersized commercial vehicle, which is a vehicle that is used in the furtherance of a commercial enterprise, but does not meet a certain threshold for weight and height. Those vehicles may be allowed – under certain circumstances – on residential property. Oversized commercial vehicles should be prohibited broadly on residential property, with certain exceptions, such as if the vehicle is being used in connection with a service that is being provided to the homeowner on such property. But in general, oversized vehicles are a public safety hazard when parked on the street in any neighborhood and can be a quality of life issue when parked in a driveway for extended periods of time.

Corporation Counsel agreed to draft an ordinance with regard to commercial vehicles for the Committee's review at our next meeting.

With regard to all three parking issues, the Committee agreed that there are a number of instances where the violations are caused by individuals who simply do not know what the town prohibits in terms of parking of a motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle. The Committee members felt strongly that the town should have a consistent public education program, especially for new homeowners and new landlords, to ensure that people fully understand the quality of life standards that are contained in our ordinances and would help minimize inadvertent violations of the law.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION        By Esther Clarke  
                     seconded by Linda Russo  
                     to **adjourn** (6:45 p.m.)  
                     Motion carried 3/0.

cc: Mayor Leclerc  
     Rich Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel  
     Scott Sansom, Chief of Police