TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS/MICROSOFT "TEAMS"

740 MAIN STREET

EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

MAY 3, 2022

PUBLIC HEARING- Tax Credit Program for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons and Food Truck Ordinance

PRESENT

Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr. (via Teams), Majority Leader Sebrina Wilson, Minority Leader John Morrison, Councillors Angie Parkinson, Awet Tsegai (via Teams), Thomas Rup, Travis Simpson and Harry O. Amadasun, Jr.

The following is a copy of the legal notice published in the East Hartford Gazette on Thursday, April 21st.

LEGAL NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut, will hold a public hearing on May 3, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut and via Microsoft Teams to hear public comment on the Proposed Amendment to the Town's Tax Credit Program for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons as recommended by the Ordinance Committee, and the Town Food Truck ordinance as recommended by the Ordinance Committee.

Any person(s) wishing to express an opinion on this matter may do so at this meeting.

Jason Marshall Town Council Clerk

Chair Kehoe called the public hearing to order at 7:41 pm.

The Chair shared that purpose of this meeting is to hear public comment on the Ordinance committee's proposed changes to two ordinances. Amendments to the Town's Tax Credit Program for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons were previously adopted through an emergency ordinance provision at the April 19th Town Council Meeting. However, the emergency ordinance is only effective for 60 days so the permanent changes must be passed through the normal ordinance process.

The changes will enhance property tax credits and reductions in property assessments for seniors, veterans or people with disabilities. The revision increases the exemption of property assessments from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for those eligible. The qualifying income limit has been increased to \$53,000 for an individual and \$61,400 for a couple. The goal is that the credit will reach residents who may struggle to pay property taxes. The

amendment also clarifies that if a veteran was receiving an exemption and passes away, the surviving spouse will retain the exemption should the spouse remain in their home. The proposal also provides an additional \$3,000 exemption for veterans with certain disabilities. For seniors and people with disabilities, there is an increase in limits for eligibility for the tax credit (\$53,000 individual/ \$61,400 for couples). The maximum amount of the property tax credit also is increased from \$700 to \$900.

The Food Truck Ordinance has also been updated. The goal is to make food truck regulations more streamlined by placing the permit process with the Director of Health and Social Services as the director currently provide a health related permit for food trucks. The amendment will put all requirements within one department. The Director will be able to assure that the individual has all state public health licenses and town requirements. There is also a requirement that the Director approve the proposed location or locations of the food truck within town to ensure the food truck operations are not disruptive to homes within a neighborhood or pose a traffic hazard. The Director of Health and Social Services will consult with the Police Department for allowable locations for the food truck to operate. The goal is that the revised ordinance will encourage food trucks to locate in town and provide the community with more food options available.

No members of the public came forward to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By John Morrison

seconded by Tom Rup to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

Motion carried 9/0

Attest		
	Jason Marshall	
	Town Council Clerk	