



REGULAR MEETING – ORDINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MARCH 17, 2026, 7:00 PM
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone and/or Zoom, or a recording in the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at norwalkct.gov/meetings.



Members of the public may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial *9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Brian Candela at bcandela@norwalkct.gov with the subject line "Public Comment" to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
- III. **PUBLIC HEARING**
- IV. **PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION**
- V. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENT**
- VI. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**
 - A. February 17, 2026 – regular meeting of the ordinance committee
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Discuss and vote on new ordinance: Financial Disclosures and Impact of Ordinances

- B. Discuss and vote on new ordinance: City Council member being appointed as ex officio member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss and vote on Chapter 95 (Streets and Sidewalks), Section 10 (Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks and Driveways), Subsection F. City Code § 95-10(F)

IX. DISCUSSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 17, 2026
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

ATTENDEES: Jalin Sead (Chair), Josh Goldstein, Richard Dellinger, Jesse Buccolo, Ann Wennerstrand, Johan Lopez, Colin Hosten.

STAFF: Matthew Sapienza (Attorney), Garrett Bilella.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ordinance Committee was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mr. Sead.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Sead conducted roll call and a quorum was established.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Discuss and vote on Chapter 33A (Complete Streets), Section 33A-8 (Exceptions)

Mr. Sead opened the public hearing on the proposed amendment to Chapter 33A, Section 33A-8, which clarifies the appeal period to 30 days in alignment with Connecticut case law and ensures due process. No members of the public indicated a desire to speak.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33A, SECTION 33A-8 (EXCEPTIONS) AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.**

**** MR. LOPEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Discuss and vote on Chapter 29 (Cannabis), Section 29-6 (Enforcement; fines/citation; hearing; report)

Mr. Sead opened the public hearing on the proposed amendment to Chapter 29, Section 29-6, which strengthens clarity around enforcement, ensures reporting, and promotes transparency. No members of the public indicated a desire to speak.

**** MS. WENNERSTRAND MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 29, SECTION 29-6 AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.**

**** MR. LOPEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Discuss and vote on Chapter 112A (Vape Shops), Section 112A-13 (Penalties)

Mr. Sead opened the public hearing on the proposed amendment to Chapter 112A, Section 112A-13 (Penalties). No members of the public indicated a desire to speak.

**** MR. LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 112A, SECTION 112A-13 AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.
** MR. BUCCOLO SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION

No additional discussion occurred under this item.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sead opened the floor for public comment on any item on the agenda. No members of the public indicated a desire to speak.

VI. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Discuss and Vote on minutes from the regular meeting of the Ordinance Committee dated January 20, 2026

Mr. Sead asked for any corrections or omissions to the minutes of January 20, 2026. None were noted.

**** MS. WENNERSTRAND MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2026 REGULAR MEETING AS PRESENTED.
** MR. DELLINGER SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss and vote on new ordinance: City Council member being appointed as ex officio member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation

Mr. Sead opened discussion on the proposed ordinance to appoint a City Council member as an ex officio (non-voting) member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation, consistent with Charter Section 7-2A1C. Attorney Matthew Sapienza explained that the draft was prepared by Attorney Brian Candela and aligns with the Charter provision.

Ms. Wennerstrand asked whether any additional criteria or qualifications should be specified beyond the Charter language, which provides that the Council President appoints the member subject to majority approval by the City Council. Mr. Goldstein noted that the Charter is intentionally not overly specific on qualifications and that the ordinance could add detail if

desired, but cautioned against overly restrictive language that might prove unworkable in future councils.

Discussion followed regarding the need to allow a designee to attend meetings in the appointed member's absence (particularly during the intensive budget season), the value of establishing a term length (such as one or two years) to permit periodic reevaluation, and the possibility of treating the appointment similarly to committee assignments under Council rules. Council President Goldstein raised concerns about mechanisms to replace a member who fails to represent Council priorities or is unable to attend regularly.

Attorney Sapienza agreed to relay the points raised to Attorney Candela for further review and refinement. The committee agreed that additional work is needed and that a vote would be deferred to a future meeting.

B. Discuss and vote on new ordinance: Financial Disclosures and Impact of Ordinances

Mr. Sead introduced the proposed ordinance on financial disclosures and fiscal impact statements for ordinances, which remains under development by Attorney Brian Candela. No motion was taken.

Mr. Dellinger commented on inconsistencies in references to “Common Council.” Mr. Lopez suggested revisions to Section 4A (removing Council member completion of fiscal notes and assigning the task to departments in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer), Section 4C (requiring written documentation of amendments), and Section 4D (adjusting the timing of submission to provide more review time and adding flexibility language such as “to the extent practicable”). Mr. Lopez also questioned the feasibility of a mandatory five-year financial projection in all cases and suggested qualifying language.

suggested modeling the ordinance on existing nonpartisan fiscal analysis processes at the state (Office of Policy and Management) and federal (Congressional Budget Office) levels and reviewing municipal examples.

Mr. Sead agreed to follow up with Attorney Candela and Councilmember Nicole Ayers (the proposal's sponsor) to incorporate the committee's feedback and return the item to a future meeting for further discussion.

IX. DISCUSSION

Mr. Sead invited any additional ideas for ordinances from committee members or other Council members and encouraged continued collaboration.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- **MR. HOSTEN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- ** THE MEETING ADJOURNED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Baldwin,
Recording Secretary

PROPOSED ORDINANCE - FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

§ XX-1. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to promote responsible fiscal planning and transparency in the City of Norwalk. In order to ensure proper fiscal planning and public transparency, it is critical that the City Council be aware of any fiscal impact that may arise from enacting a new or revised ordinance. The City residents are best served when an ordinance is accompanied by clear and accurate information regarding its financial implications. It is in the public interest to require that the enactment of all new or revised ordinances being passed by the City Council to include a Fiscal Impact Statement outlining the projected impact of the ordinance for the upcoming fiscal year. The Fiscal Impact Statement shall allow the City Council to make informed decisions concerning the City's budget, spending, and use of public funds.

§ XX-2. Definitions.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: A document that estimates the financial effect of a proposed new or revised ordinance on the costs, savings, revenue, staffing, operations and capital expenditures of the City's budget.

§ XX-3. Fiscal Impact Statements; when required, preparation and review.

- A. All ordinances shall include either a Fiscal Impact Statement prepared by the appropriate City Department, or a written statement from the appropriate City Department explaining the reason(s) that no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared.
- B. The Fiscal Impact Statement, or a written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, must be submitted to the City's Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, for their review and comment before a public hearing is held on the new or revised ordinance. The Fiscal Impact Statement shall be submitted to the City's Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, twenty-one days before the public hearing is held.
 1. The City's Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, shall review all Fiscal Impact Statements, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared. The City's Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, may accept or revise the Fiscal Impact Statement, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared. The City's Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, shall decide whether to accept or revise the Fiscal Impact Statement within seven days of receipt.
 2. If the Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, revises a Fiscal Impact Statement, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, then the revised document shall be provided to the City Council no later than ten days after before the public hearing is held.
- C. The Fiscal Impact Statement, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, must be submitted to the City Council before a public hearing is held on the new or revised ordinance. The Fiscal Impact Statement shall be submitted to the City Council ten days before the public hearing is held.
- D. Following the public hearing, any City Council member who intends to present a significant amendment to the ordinance shall provide the appropriate City Department and the Chief Financial Officer, or their designee, with a copy and sufficient time to analyze the fiscal impact of the amended ordinance. If the amendment requires a revised Fiscal Impact Statement, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, it shall be provided to the City Council no less than three days before the City Council meeting where the final vote will be held.
- E. The City Council cannot vote on an ordinance unless the requirements of this Section are satisfied.

§ XX-4. Contents of Fiscal Impact Statement.

A. A Fiscal Impact Statement shall include, but not be limited to the following information:

1. A statement of the estimated costs or savings to the City resulting from the ordinance in the upcoming fiscal year.
2. A statement on any potential impact of the ordinance on revenues in the upcoming fiscal year.
3. A statement on any potential impact of the ordinance on staffing, operations, and capital expenditures in the upcoming fiscal year.
4. Identification of the funding source(s) of the ordinance, if applicable.

§ XX-5. Submission and Use.

All Fiscal Impact Statements, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, shall be submitted as supporting documentation to the proposed ordinance at the City Council meeting where the final vote will be held. The purpose of the Fiscal Impact Statement, or the written statement explaining the reason why no Fiscal Impact Statement could be prepared, is to provide a formal structure for estimating potential financial impact and to inform the City Council's deliberations. The Fiscal Impact Statement shall not be considered binding.

§ XX-6. Effect of Inaccuracy.

Any mistake or inaccuracy in a Fiscal Impact Statement shall not affect the validity of the legislative action to which it is attached.

§ XX-7. When effective.

This Chapter shall take effect 10 days following adoption by the City Council.

New Draft Ordinance

Pursuant to Charter section 7-2(A)(1)(c), the City Council is hereby authorized to designate one of its members to represent it as an ex officio, non-voting regular member on the Board of Estimate and Taxation and another City Council member as an alternate in case the regular member is unable to attend a Board of Estimate and Taxation meeting. The ex officio City Council member shall be entitled to participate in all proceedings of the Board of Estimate and Taxation. The President of the City Council shall appoint this-both members, subject to approval by a Majority Vote of the City Council. The President of the City Council shall provide the City Council with at least seven days notice of these appointments before any vote were to take place. The vote to appoint the City Council members to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as ex officio, non-voting members shall take place no later than the second meeting in January of each year. The terms for both the regular and alternate member of the City Council shall be one year. No City Council member can serve after the expiration of their term of office. This ordinance shall be effective ten days from its passage.

§ 95-10. Snow and ice removal from sidewalks and driveways. [Amended 2-27-2018; 10-22-2019]

- A. The provisions of Section 7-163a of the Connecticut General Statutes are hereby adopted and are set forth in Subsections B, C and D hereof.
- B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 13a-149 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other general or special act, the City shall not be liable to any person for injury to person or property due to the presence of ice or snow on a public Sidewalk unless the City is the owner or person in possession and control of land abutting such Sidewalk, other than land used as a highway or street, provided that the City shall be liable for its affirmative acts with respect to any such sidewalk under its possession and control.
- C. The owner or person in possession and control of land abutting a public sidewalk shall have the same duty of care with respect to the presence of ice or snow on such sidewalk toward the portion of the sidewalk abutting his property as the City had prior to the effective date of this article and shall be liable to persons injured in person or property where a breach of said duty is the proximate cause of said injury,
- D. No action to recover damages for injury to person or property caused by the presence of ice or snow on a public sidewalk against a person who owns or is in possession and control of land abutting a public sidewalk shall be brought but within two years from the date when the injury is first sustained.
- E. It shall be the duty of each owner and/or occupant in possession and control, jointly, of every parcel of real estate abutting a public sidewalk, whether the parcel of real estate is occupied by a structure or not, to keep such sidewalks free from snow and ice for the full paved width of such sidewalks or, in the case of ice, by covering the same with sand, salt, chemical ice melt or other suitable material, and then renewing such treatment as often as may be necessary to keep such sidewalk safe and convenient.
- F. In case of the failure or neglect of the owner or occupant in possession and control of land abutting the public sidewalk to comply with this section, as identified in Subsection E, the Chief of Economic and Community Development, the Chief Building Official, or their respective designees may cause the same to be done, and the expense thereof shall be collectible from the person so failing or neglecting, in an action of debt brought in the name of the City under this section. It will be presumed that the owner and/or occupant, as identified in Subsection E, has not complied with its obligations under this section if the owner and/or occupant fails to remove snow and/or ice within 24 hours after the cessation of the weather-related event~~a reasonable period of time after such accumulation~~. Any person who fails or neglects to comply with this subsection shall also be liable for a penalty or fine in an amount established in accordance with § 90-4 of the Norwalk City Code, Approval of rates and fees.
- G. No person, firm or private corporation shall deposit, throw, place or strew, nor shall any person, firm, or private corporation cause to be deposited, thrown, placed or strewn, any snow or ice upon any streets, avenues, roadways, highways or sidewalks within the City. Any person, firm or private corporation who violates this subsection shall also be liable for a penalty or fine in an amount established in accordance with § 90-4 of the Norwalk City Code, Approval of rates and fees.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

FEE SCHEDULE

(As Amended Through January 9, 2024)

ORDINANCE SECTION	DESCRIPTION	FEE	DATE LAST CHANGED
91-6	SEWER CONNECTION INSPECTION (State Road)	\$200	4/13/2010
93-21	FINE FOR VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF CHAPTER 93 (Stormwater, Illicit Discharges and Connections)	\$250/day plus all costs of remediation, litigation and criminal prosecution	4/8/2014
94-3	SOURCE SEPARATION OF MATERIAL		
	Batteries – Lithium (Any Size)	\$2/battery	4/8/2014
	Antifreeze (Residential)	\$2/gallon	4/8/2014
	Propane Tanks (Any Size)	\$5/tank	4/8/2014
	Tires (Any Size)	\$5/tire	4/8/2014
	Freon-containing appliances	\$10/appliance	2/2/2015
94-4.9d	PER-TRIP RESIDENT OR NON-RESIDENT DISPOSAL FEE (NO STICKER)	\$20 minimum	6/9/2009
94-10	LICENSE FEE FOR COLLECTION, REMOVAL AND TRASPORATION OF SOLID WASTE REGARDLESS OF WASTE TYPE		
	VEHICLE TARE WEIGHT		
	Less than 12,000 LBS	\$125	
	Greater than 12,000 LBS	\$500	

ORDINANCE SECTION	DESCRIPTION	FEE	DATE LAST CHANGED
	REGISTRATION FEE FOR VEHICLES AND/OR CONTAINERS ENGAGED IN COLLECTION, REMOVAL AND TRANSPORTATION OF SOLID WASTE REGARDLESS OF WASTE TYPE		
94-10 Cont'd.	VEHICLE TARE WEIGHT Less than 5,000 LBS Greater than 5,000 LBS Greater than 12,000 LBS Rolloff Containers and Compactors	\$125 \$250 \$750 \$25	
	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL		
	Acceptable Solid Waste	\$102/ton	1/9/2024
	YARD WASTE DISPOSAL		
	Leaves/Brush/Logs/Stumps	\$55/ton	4/8/2014
94-17	FINE FOR VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF CHAPTER 94 (Solid Waste)	\$250/day	9/12/2006
94-19	DISPOSAL PASS (Residents and/or Real Property Owners that DO NOT pay vehicle tax to Norwalk)	\$100	4/13/2020
95-12	DRIVEWAY PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEE		
	Major	\$400	2/10/2009
	Minor	\$200	2/10/2009
95-18	FINE FOR VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF CHAPTER 95 (Streets and Sidewalks)	\$250/day	9/12/2006
95-24	STREET ACCEPTANCE APPLICATION FEE	\$2,500	11/10/09

Last updated 1/9/2024

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