

Public Comment
Ordinance Committee Meeting
November 17, 2020
Part 1

Candela, Brian

From: Stephan Genovese <stephangenovese@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Common Council Ordinance Committee

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr. Brian Candela,

Could you please answer some questions for me prior to the Tuesday Nov 17th common council meeting?

I am baffled at the decision to even consider banning the carrying of firearms on city-owned property. City owned property meaning TAX funded. Funded by the money of the citizens of Norwalk. Concealed permit owners have applied for and been vetted by the Norwalk Police Department first, and then the State Police. We have been issued a license from the State or Connecticut to be able to carry a firearm, which is within our rights guaranteed by the State's constitution.

Licensed concealed permit owners are statistically the most law-abiding group of citizens. Why are we being targeted? Why are you attempting to limit where we can protect ourselves on property that WE pay for?

Why are they proposing an ordinance that would make permit holders felons (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-37), if they carry on city owned (tax payer funded) property?

Has there been any incident for the need of this proposal? What data do you have to suggest that this ban would benefit anyone except non-law abiding citizens who will continue to carry weapons and firearms wherever they so please?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting? Norwalk has historically been a waterfowl-friendly city, with strong connections to the Connecticut DEEP.

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs? And even if these signs are posted, at what lengths is the city willing to go to in order to ensure its licensed citizens are not carrying a concealed firearm? More plainly, how in the hell would you know if I had a firearm? And more importantly, it is absolutely none of your business if I do.

Please reconsider this blatant infringement on our rights to self-defense and safety, especially considering these areas are paid for by Norwalk citizens for ALL Norwalk citizens to enjoy.

-Stephan G.

Candela, Brian

From: Stephan Genovese <stephangenovese@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 5:52 PM
To: djojnson@norwalkct.org; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; tkegan@norwalkct.org; dheubelman@norwalkct.org; Livingston, Thomas P.
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Committee Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Common Council Ordinance Committee,

Could you please answer some questions for me prior to the Tuesday Nov 17th common council meeting?

I am baffled at the decision to even consider banning the carrying of firearms on city-owned property. City owned property meaning TAX funded. Funded by the money of the citizens of Norwalk. Concealed permit owners have applied for and been vetted by the Norwalk Police Department first, and then the State Police. We have been issued a license from the State or Connecticut to be able to carry a firearm, which is within our rights guaranteed by the State's constitution.

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Please reconsider this blatant infringement on our rights to self-defense and safety, especially considering these areas are paid for by Norwalk citizens for ALL Norwalk citizens to enjoy.

-Stephan G.

Candela, Brian

From: CF <CF5791@pm.me>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 6:32 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-37)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I have to ask why you would put this out there for people that are lawful owners it solves nothing are the criminals gonna follow the same avenue ?

Candela, Brian

From: Tony Lupis <tonylupis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 11:05 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: Follow up from Ordinance Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Council Members,

First off, let me take a moment to thank you for hearing my concerns, and wish all of you to stay safe in the face of this COVID-19 nightmare.

I had the privilege to listen to the town council meeting on Tuesday, the conversation about some of the proposed changes to the firearms and hunting ordinances raised some concerns about the proposed wording.

As an avid outdoorsman, I enjoy the hunting, camping, hiking, and boating that the raw beauty of CT has to offer. A few minute's drive, and you can be enjoying the miles of beautiful coastline, or the summit of a scenic mountain. That being said, I can understand the concerns nearby residents have with waterfowl hunting near Calf Pasture. As a fowl hunter, Calf Pasture would not be my first choice for a hunting spot, because of its proximity to a beach, and to people's homes. I can empathize with the local residents who do not wish to enjoy their morning coffee to the tune of a 12 ga.

On the issues of banning the carry of firearms for non-law enforcement on ALL city properties, I do have great concern. The wording as it was discussed is far too vague. "All city properties" in addition to including municipal garages would also include streets and sidewalks. I am sure that it was not the committee's intent, however as it is written it cannot safely be assumed otherwise. I can sympathize with Mr. Livingston's desire to keep Norwalk's parks and municipal facilities gun-free, however, I would like the ordinance to be revised to have more specific guidelines on which facilities, parks, etc, so as to remove ambiguity. One cannot step outside of their home without having to also step foot on city property, so the ordinance as written would effectively prevent all lawful concealed carry in the city of Norwalk - again, I do not believe - I do not hope - that that is the intent of the committee.

As Chief Kulhawik stated, NPD will certainly make an effort to guide individuals off any premise where the carry of a firearm is not permitted - but the ambiguity in the law is inviting more room for misunderstanding, where our laws should be making an effort to be as lucid as possible to avoid these encounters altogether. As Mr. Candela was reading off some of the neighboring town's ordinances, I noticed they were all very clear about the kinds of facilities and premises that banned the carry of firearms - it was very carefully worded so as to not be the blanket statement of "all city properties."

As a concealed carry permit holder, I, and many like me, care about the law, and make significant effort to understand it so as to ensure that we're following it. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of those who wish to do harm to others, who have no regard for the law and law enforcement officers. Additionally, police officers cannot be everywhere, and I believe that it should be a citizen's right to possess the tools to defend themselves

and their families from those that wish them harm. It is my waking nightmare to be in a place with my family, and to be attacked with no course to defend myself because I obeyed the law prohibiting the carry of a firearm, and the criminal did not. The more places that the lawful carry of firearms is prohibited, the more places lawful, good citizens could fall victim to those who wish them harm. It is in this spirit that I hope the committee will decide to be less restrictive about where a citizen can lawfully carry a firearm in Norwalk.

Again, I would like to thank the committee for hearing my concerns, and I am confident that with further discussion, the new ordinances will provide hunters with fantastic waterfowl hunting opportunities and prevent the fears that all lawful CT concealed carry permit holders have - the fear of breaking the law, second only to ever having to use that firearm in a self defense capacity.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss anything I've mentioned above in greater detail, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Anthony Lupis
631-807-6097

Candela, Brian

From: Priscilla Feral <feral@friendsofanimals.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: My and Friends of Animals' Comments on Ban to Carry Firearms on Town Property

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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90 Americans everyday are killed on average by guns, and as Senator Chris Murphy said, we're the only country in the world with this epidemic of mass shootings and the reason is clear. Gun restrictions in Connecticut have resulted in an estimated 40% reduction in gun-related homicides. That's impressive. While I detest the sound of guns shooting at innocent ducks and geese at Calf Pasture Beach or other parks, the truth is after national parks allowed firearms, the number of problematic shooting incidents increased 10% to more than 1,700, *The New York Times* reported.

Carrying firearms has not only intimidated others in parks, it has increased the number of harmful shooting violations -- from accidental weapons discharge to reckless shooting. Some people are not wrapped tight enough to be brandishing a gun on city-owned, leased property and facilities. How about our right to protect ourselves from gun-carrying shooters?

Also, it's noisy and cruel for hunters to shoot lovely ducks and geese from the skies as though they're worth more dead as targets than alive. Leave them be.

Please vote in favor of a ban on carrying firearms on all parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots.

Priscilla Feral, 5 McKinley Street, Rowayton, CT 06853
President of Friends of Animals
777 Post Road
Darien, CT 06820

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Candela, Brian

From: Fran Silverman <fsilverman@friendsofanimals.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 3:22 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Question on amendment to firearm ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Attorney Candela,

I am communications director for Friends of Animals, a nonprofit wildlife and animal protection organization based in Darien. I'm looking into a proposed amendment to a city firearms ordinance that our organization is interested in providing testimony for but I have some questions.

Can you please sum up what the amendments would ban: https://www.ccdl.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Norwalk-Firearm-Proposal-as-Amended-10_2020.pdf

If I am reading this correctly, there are exemptions of the ban for hunters and anyone protecting land or property, correct?

Thank you for your attention to our inquiry.

Regards,

Fran Silverman
Communications Director

~~EXPLOITERS~~
FRIENDS
of ANIMALS

777 Post Rd. Ste. 205
Darien CT 06820

T 203-656-1522
fsilverman@friendsofanimals.org
www.friendsofanimals.org

Candela, Brian

From: Michael Fragasso <mikefrag@optonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 5:20 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: New firearms law

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Why would you ban legal permit holders from carrying on city property?
Has there been shootings by permit holders on these properties?

Just another stupid idea.

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Peter Choi <peterwchoi@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 9:47 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Subject: Proposed Firearm Ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Brian and the Committee members,

As a Norwalk resident and also a Connecticut concealed carry permit holder, I am writing to voice my disapproval of a proposal to ban carrying firearms on city owned, leased property, and facilities.

I live in the Cranbury area of Norwalk, and often walk my dog to Cranbury Park while conceal carrying. There are many of us among the Cranbury Park dog-walking regulars who are also gun enthusiasts and conceal carriers like myself. I have had harrowing experiences in the past with the growing coyote population in the area, and feel comforted knowing I can protect myself and my pet in at the event of an unfortunate encounter.

I also conceal carry for fear of my personal safety. As an Asian American man, I know first hand the dangers for minorities like myself, especially in this climate of escalating white supremacy and civil unrest. Within weeks of the current President's inauguration, I was verbally assaulted in two different incidents - once in Michigan and again in Norwalk. I know verbal harassment can quickly escalate to physical harassment, and as a result consider conceal carrying critical in maintaining the safety of myself and loved ones.

I am a law abiding citizen, with good public standing, and proud resident who does not wish to become a criminal simply by enjoying the life style I can today. I do not believe there is a gun-issue that needs to be resolved in city parks and property, and feel this proposal will primarily punish responsible, law abiding citizens like myself.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me with any follow-up questions.

Peter Choi

12 Granite Drive
Norwalk, CT 06851
917-509-2620
peterwchoi@yahoo.com

Candela, Brian

From: Bob Orabona <bob.orabona@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 11:53 AM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: Banning Firearms on Town property

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I support the ban on firearms in all Town parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots. Only professional law enforcement officers have the need to carry weapons on public property.

Please help keep both law enforcement officers and the public safe by banning firearms on public property.

Sincerely,

Bob Orabona
5 McKinley Street
Norwalk CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Priscilla Feral <feral@friendsofanimals.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 12:29 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: An Ordinance to Ban the Carrying of Guns on Norwalk's City Property

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Norwalk Common Council Members,

Please know that the ordinance you're considering to prohibit the carrying of guns on City Hall beaches and parks has my full enthusiastic support as a Norwalk resident.

When I'm visiting a park, beach or recreational facility in Norwalk, I don't want to be confronted or threatened by seeing someone carrying a gun, and having to wonder whether it's going to be fired in my direction by intent or mistake. These gun-carriers are a public nuisance. There's reckless shooting and accidents from weapons discharged, and we all have a right to protect ourselves from this violence when we're simply visiting the beach, or strolling in the park with our dog and family.

I also hope that the moratorium on shooting ducks and geese at Calf Pasture Beach is extended.

Most sincerely,

Priscilla Feral
5 McKinley Street
Rowayton, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Veronica Johnson <vj@friendsofanimals.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Dominique Johnson; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: Ban firearms in public places

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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I support the ban on ALL! firearms in public places. I think it's a very dangerous thing to allow people to walk around with firearms, where innocent people lives are at risk. In a country where there's been so many innocent people losing their lives behind reckless shootings, this law should NOT be passed.

Veronica Johnson, 324 Strawberry Hl Ave B107, Norwalk, CT 06851

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:35 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Molly Sargent
Subject: Fw: Gun Ordinance in Norwalk

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Molly ~

Thank you for your comments which will be read into the public record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Molly Sargent <msargent@proimpress.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance in Norwalk

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Norwalk Common Council and Lisa Shanahan, Ordinance Committee Chair:

Please make our Norwalk City premises, beaches and park lands gun free.

Please be aware that, as a 35+-year citizen of Norwalk:

- I support the ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to **make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free.**
- I applaud the effort to provide statutory basis for rules that ban guns in city properties, but which do not interfere with gun ownership rights.
- I believe that it's important to keep our municipal employees safe. They are not permitted to carry guns in the workplace, as the State of Connecticut does not allow guns in the State house nor in the municipal buildings and parks.
- I agree that Norwalk citizens should feel safe to visit City Hall and to speak at city meetings without fear.
- I also agree that guns not be in our city beaches and recreational spaces where children play, nor in parks hosting events where alcoholic beverages might be consumed.

Additionally:

- I have sent this brief email as **a show of support for these actions to be taken** by the Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee and for such advocacy and action by Councilman Lisa Shanahan, Ordinance Committee Chair, who is copied herein.
- I note that I am sending this communique prior to 3PM on November 17, 2020, with the subject line “Gun Ordinance” for easy reference.
- I understand that the November 17 meeting agenda will be published November 13, 2020 on the city website along with a copy of the proposed ordinance; the document contents are visible here.

My thanks.

Molly Sargent

5 Possum Circle
Norwalk, CT 06854
917.553.6607

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Fenella Pearson; Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: GUN CONTROL

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into our public record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Fenella Pearson <fenellap@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: GUN CONTROL

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am in support of all and any gun control measures in Norwalk, Fairfield County, the State of Connecticut and indeed the entire U.S.A. But most specifically here in my home town of Norwalk.

Fenella Pearson,
Fairfield County Chorale
Operations Manager
and
FP Designs
Interior Design

203-858-0292

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:38 PM
To: megan mcallister
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Ms McCallister

Thank you for your comments. We will read your letter into the public comments on Tuesday night.

Lisa Shanahan

From: megan mcallister <meganmcallister1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom it may concern,

As a Norwalk resident, I'm wiring in support of an ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free. I cannot think of a more fundamental right than to use public buildings and lands without fear of injury or violence. Thank you for your work on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Megan McAllister
532 Flax Hill Road
Norwalk CT 06854

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Isabelle Hunter; Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Isabelle ~

Thank you for your comments. They will be rad into the public record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Isabelle Hunter <ihunterislander@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 4:37 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>; lshanahan@norwalkct.com <lshanahan@norwalkct.com>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee,

Please make our public spaces gun-free! I strongly support an ordinance to ban guns in city properties, especially at civic offices, beaches and parks.

I frequent the recreational spaces and beaches of Norwalk almost daily, often with my young grandsons. As a city, we must take no chances on tragic incidents, whether intentional or accidental.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Isabelle Hunter
Drum Road, Rowayton

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Tony McConnell; Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Ordinance to Ban Carrying Firearms in Public Parks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your comments, Tony. We will read them into our public record at our meeting on Tuesday.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Tony McConnell <mccconnell.anthony@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 5:23 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Ordinance to Ban Carrying Firearms in Public Parks

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you all to express my full support for the proposal to ban firearms in public parks and facilities. There is no reasonable reason to be carrying firearms in these areas. I hope this will help bring our community and state a little closer to stronger gun safety.

Thank you,

Tony McConnell
3 Coventry Pl.
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Timothy L. Johnson
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: We must restrict guns!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you so much for your message. Your note will be read into the public record at our meeting on Tuesday.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Timothy L. Johnson <timcpi@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 12:01 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: We must restrict guns!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilman Shanahan:

I am in full support of the ordinance to limit the use of guns in the City of Norwalk. I was among those who marched from St. Paul's on the Green to City Hall to hear students and other activists speak where I saw protestors carrying guns. I later learned of Connecticut's open-carry law and I was horrified and deeply disappointed. I had naively believed that we Nutmeggers were more civilized than our neighboring states.

Anyone taking a gun to a playground, beach, or anywhere other than the woods to hunt or designated places to practice target shooting threatens the lives of children and other peaceful citizens. Especially when we are coping with a life-threatening disease against which we are currently powerless, we should not have to face life-threatening guns. Norwalk can do better: Norwalk can BE better. I was so proud when our city banned plastic bags; banning guns on city properties will make Norwalk citizens both proud and safe. Please help in any way you can to get this ordinance passed.

Sincerely,

Timothy L. Johnson

Sent from my iPhone
+1 203-434-2311

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:03 AM
To: Mary Ellroy
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into the public record on Tuesday.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Mary Ellroy <maryellroy@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 10:40 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

The city of Norwalk absolutely should have the authority to make city premises, parks and beaches GUN FREE. I believe that no human being should have the right to carry a gun. But this ordinance would go a long way to making people feel safe in their own town.

Mary Ellroy

3934 Rowayton Ave.
06854

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:03 AM
To: S Johnson
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you so much for your comments. We will read them into the record on Tuesdya night.

From: S Johnson <slj49@pobox.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 10:23 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilman Shanahan:

I support fully any ordinance that will limit the use of guns in the City of Norwalk. Having attended an anti-gun rally that marched from St. Paul's on the Green to City Hall where students and others spoke, I saw protestors carrying guns. I was subsequently appalled to learn of Connecticut's open carry state law. No one should feel, indeed, be, so vulnerable as many of us did that day.

Anyone taking a gun to a playground, beach, or anywhere other than the woods to hunt or designated places to practice target shooting threatens the lives of children and other peaceful citizens. Especially when we are coping with a life-threatening disease against which we are currently powerless, we should not have to face life-threatening guns. Norwalk can do better. Banning plastic bags in the city made me proud to live here; banning guns on city properties will make Norwalk citizens both proud and safe. Please pass the ordinance.

Very truly yours,

Sarah L. Johnson
7 Drum Road
Norwalk

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:05 AM
To: Alexandra Mallas Baudouin
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: GunOrdinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ms. Baudouin

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into the record on Tuesday night.

From: Alexandra Mallas Baudouin <alex8@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 7:14 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: GunOrdinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Common Council of Norwalk ,
Re: Gun Ordinance

Citizens should feel safe to visit City Hall and to speak at city meetings without fear. In addition, guns should not be in our city beaches and recreational spaces where children play, or in parks hosting events where alcoholic beverages might be consumed.

Please reverse this ordinance. There is no need for guns on these places.
Sincerely,
Alexandra Baudouin
40 year resident of Norwalk.

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:06 AM
To: elsa.p.obuchowski@gmail.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Proposed ordinance: post signs and ban guns from all city facilities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into the record on Tuesday night.

Lisa Shanahan

From: elsa.p.obuchowski@gmail.com <elsa.p.obuchowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 6:41 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed ordinance: post signs and ban guns from all city facilities

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To: Norwalk Common Council members

I just saw the article in The Hour about proposing an ordinance so that guns can be banned from all Norwalk city buildings and facilities.

"Creating a specific ordinance on the topic would give the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities."

https://www.ctinsider.com/news/thehour/article/It-s-a-workplace-safety-rule-Norwalk-15720290.php?sid=5d2f18f591d15c49f434833f&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CT_HR_Insider

I wholeheartedly support this ban. On three different occasions in my life I was (1) threatened with a gun, (2) shot at while a passenger in a car, and (3) actually shot while mowing my lawn. I think guns should be much more tightly regulated than they are. I have confidence the Common Council's Ordinance Committee, and the full Council, will draft the ban responsibly so that it harmonizes with state laws.

I'm sure there will be very vocal "2nd Amendment" supporters who will make many hostile comments opposing this ordinance. I hope you will not listen to them. There are places where guns are appropriate. City buildings and facilities that we taxpayers support for public use are not among those places.

Sincerely,

Elsa Peterson Obuchowski

(203) 846-8331 / mobile (203) 984-8892

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:08 AM
To: Ed Hynes
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your note. Your comments will be read into our record.

I appreciate your remembering meeting me last year. I have very much enjoyed representing our District. We have had some very interesting issues to manage this year, but I feel as though we have a good team at City Hall.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Ed Hynes <ed@edhynes.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Lisa:

We met last year when you were running for office. I hope things are going well.

I am writing in support of an ordinance to provide the City with authority to make various city properties gun free. I hope you are successful in getting this passed and if there is anything I can do to help, please reach out.

Sincerely,

Ed Hynes

89 Roton Avenue
Norwalk
203-838-1025
ed@edhynes.com



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Joseph Carter
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you so much for reaching out. We will read your comments into the record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Joseph Carter <joscarter@sprintmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 10:54 AM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I support adoption of revisions to the gun ordinances as proposed by the Ordinance Committee.

Joe Carter
5 Indian Spring Rd.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Ethelle Shatz
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you so much for your comments. We will read them into the public record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Ethelle Shatz <ethelle97@optonline.net>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Sent from my iPhone I enthusiastically support this measure which bespeaks of the importance of safety to our public workers as well as all citizens
Ethelle Shatz

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Andrew Woolford
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Andy - thank you so much for your comments. We will read them into the record on Tuesday night.

From: Andrew Woolford <woolfordandrew@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa, while I respect ones interest in gun ownership for sporting, I see absolutely no reason why guns of any kind should be allowed in Government buildings or on Public parks or beaches. It is absurd to argue the opposite.
Andrew Woolford

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 3:34 PM
To: margiegcon@aol.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ms Connors

Thank you for reaching out. We will read your comments into our record on Tuesday night.

Lisa Shanahan

From: margiegcon@aol.com <margiegcon@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 1:07 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa,
I am appalled to learn that guns are currently allowed in public buildings, parks and beaches in Norwalk. I am in full support of a new Norwalk ordinance prohibiting guns in municipal places. Thank you for your effort in making this a reality in our city.

Best,
Margarita Connors
5 Parkview Road
Norwalk, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 3:35 PM
To: Marc T Liu
Cc: maryellroy@gmail.com; Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun free zone ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr Liu

Thank you for reaching out and sharing your views. We will read your comments into our record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Marc T Liu <marctliu@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: maryellroy@gmail.com <maryellroy@gmail.com>
Subject: Gun free zone ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,

I support your efforts in this area 100%.
I would even go further but this is a good start.

It's crazy to have guns around political buildings
or beaches where there are children at risk and
alcohol is often present.

Not sure everyone needs guns anyway.
Much more dangerous with them than without them.

Marc

Marc T Liu
393 Rowayton Ave
Norwalk, CT 06854
Cell: 203-829-8740

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Louise Washer
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Louise

Thank you very much for your comments. We will read them into our record on Tuesday night.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Louise Washer <lbwasher@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee,

I am writing in support of the proposed ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free. Please pass this common-sense ordinance in order to assure the safety of all citizens using public space in Norwalk.

Thank you,
Louise Washer
280 Silvermine Ave
Norwalk, CT 06850

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Suzanne Salomon
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Guns!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your comments. We will read them into our record on Tuesday night.

From: Suzanne Salomon <wim.z@me.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Guns!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Guns are for killing!
Ultimately... the purpose of guns, is to kill!
That is their purpose.
Susie Salomon

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Robert Nyilas <robertalan281@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 4:21 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Carrying Firearms on Town Property

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

As a fourteen year resident of Norwalk, I oppose the proposal to ban carrying of firearms on town property. I have lived in Connecticut for thirty-six years (fourteen in Norwalk). For the past eighteen years since the age of twenty-one I have been a licensed law-abiding gun owner in the state. Is there a specific reason why you are targeting the most law-abiding group of people in society? Did an incident occur where there is a need for this new proposal, or are licensed law-abiding gun owners simply considered a danger to the public? Also, does this proposal include banning the carry of firearms on sidewalks and streets, or safely storing my firearm in a vehicle? Lastly, given that the state is \$67 billion in the red and recently ranked among worst in the country for its personal debt to income ratio, why does the Ordinance Council want to further waste taxpayers' dollars that we don't have on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Thank you,

Robert A Nyilas

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 5:58 PM
To: Deborah Hastings
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you fir your comments. They will be read at our meeting on Tuesday.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Deborah Hastings <debhastings40@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This email is in support of a ban on guns on public property in Norwalk including buildings, beaches, parks and other public property.

Deborah Hastings
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Bob Nyilas <bobnyilas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:03 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Ban on carrying firearms on city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela:

I understand that the Norwalk Common Council is considering a ban on carrying legally licensed firearms on city owned property. Parks, beaches parking lots. Will this also include streets and sidewalks? One thing that is very clear is that this proposal is against our right to self protection.

As a 36 year resident of Connecticut who does sport shooting and uses a firearm for protection for myself and my family find this proposal very disturbing. As a resident of Norwalk these restrictions would make me feel less safe and and concern me as how the council views law abiding citizens. Being a proud Norwalk resident for the past 5 years this concerns me as to the future of our town .

Illegal firearms and people who wish to do harm to others have no place here in Norwalk or anywhere for that matter, Please

do not punish and leave vulnerable legally licensed , law abiding citizens like me.

Please pass this on to the Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Robert T Nyilas
Silvermine, Norwalk CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Claire Schoen
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: In support of new gun ordinance -- and check the email links on norwalkt.org website

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for your note Claire. With your permission we will read it at our Ordinance Committee meeting on Tuesday night.

If there was a police report of the rowing incident, can you please let me know? I would like to cite that report.

If your teammate is comfortable sharing her experience that would be helpful as well.

Calling in on Tuesday night would also be helpful. Thank you

From: Claire Schoen <claireschoen1122@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkt.org>
Subject: In support of new gun ordinance -- and check the email links on norwalkt.org website

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa -

Good to see you recently at the Food Bank turkey distribution.

Wanted to check in with you as a citizen who is in full support of the proposed ordinance to restrict guns on public property. I had no idea that concealed carry was allowed in Norwalk, and am not in favor of it. There's really no reason for someone to need to be armed as they walk around our city, and especially not in a place like City Hall, or in public parks.

I'm also in favor of somehow extending the ban on hunting off Calf Pasture. As a rower, I've had first-hand experience with the potential dangers -- several years ago one of my teammates was hit by scattershot as we rowed out near the islands (we were in the channel). No one was injured but it was a bit unnerving!

FYI, I was unable to link directly to either the committee group email or to your individual email from the website. Could be user error, but if you've noticed fewer emails coming in, might want to check the site links to emails...

Good luck with all of this.

Cheers,

Claire Schoen

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 11:12 AM
To: bgastic@gmail.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun safety

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you so much for your note. We will read your comments at our meeting on Tuesday evening.

From: Billie Gastic Rosado <bgastic@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun safety

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Common Council-

I am writing to express my support of the proposal that is currently under consideration to protect our public buildings from guns. Our state has sadly not escaped the horrors of the bloodshed of innocents because of guns (Sandy Hook/Newtown). All of us should feel safe in our shared spaces - like City Hall, parks, and other public spaces. That sense of comfort and community is harmed by the unease that comes from having guns carried.

As elected leaders, you have a responsibility to keep your fellow community members safe. I ask that you uphold that duty by voting to keep guns and other firearms out of our public areas.

Sincerely-
Dr. Billie Gastic Rosado
District D, Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 11:13 AM
To: Tammis Lazarus
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Tammis

Thank you so much for your note. We will read it at our meeting on Tuesday evening.

Hope you are feeling better.

Lisa

From: Tammis Lazarus <tammislaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 12:53 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Fwd: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tammis Lazarus** <tammislaz@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Nov 14, 2020 at 12:02 PM
Subject: Gun Ordinance
To: lshannahan@norwalkct.go <lshannahan@norwalkct.go>

Banning firearms in public parks, and other public areas, where people would be at risk would be a help. The Norwalk Common Council would be helping make Norwalk safer and I am all for it.

Thanks.

Tammis Lazarus

--
Tammis Lazarus
p: 203-939-9215
c: 203-984-6647

--
Tammis Lazarus
p: 203-939-9215
c: 203-984-6647

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 12:39 PM
To: Susan Guerrero
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Guns on city property

Thank you for your note Susan. It will be read into the record on Tuesday evening.

I hope you are well.

From: Susan Guerrero <shsguerrero@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 8:40 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Guns on city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ms. Shanahan:

I understand why my great-grandfather thought he had to wear a gun: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid were his neighbors.

But that was the Wild West and this is suburban Norwalk. No one should be hunting ducks and geese so close to residential neighborhoods.

Please make all of us safer by banning guns on city property.

Susan Guerrero
67 Rowayton Woods Drive

Candela, Brian

From: Penny Carroll <pennycorlcarroll@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa
Cc: Heuvelman, David; Dominique Johnson; Keegan, Tom; Langella, Manny; Livingston, Thomas P.; kroberts@norwalk.org; Candela, Brian
Subject: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Norwalk Common Council,

I am writing to you in hopes that we can all knowingly visit our local Norwalk city premises, beaches and park lands without having to worry about someone else possibly carry a gun. Not only do guns have the potential to do both physical and emotional harm if used, but they also cause far too many lives to be lost.

We have the right as citizens and employees to feel safe in any of our public spaces in Norwalk. As a resident, I am hopeful that your committee will follow the other towns and cities in Connecticut that do not permit guns in their municipal buildings and public lands.

Peacefully,

Penny Carroll
3A Pond Street
Rowayton, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 4:03 PM
To: Bob Giolitto
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re:

Thank you for your email, Mr. Giolitto. We will read your email into our record on Tuesday evening.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Bob Giolitto <bgiolitto@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject:

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilwoman Shanahan,

I respectfully request that you vote to pass the ordinance banning guns on city property. To think that we are endangering the lives of our citizens, including children, along with requiring extra vigilance from the police, is unconscionable. Our supposed places of enjoyment--parks, schools, playgrounds--cannot be enjoyed in the presence of guns.

Please make us safe and pass this ordinance.

Thank you,

Bob Giolitto
15 Trailside Drive
203-858-3321

Candela, Brian

From: Mary Ellen Flaherty-Ludwig <meflaherty@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 4:51 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Common sense

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian,
Here is a copy of a letter I sent to Lisa about a current committee issue.
Mary Ellen

.....

Sent from my
November 15, 2020

Mrs. Shanahan, Norwalk Committee Chair,

I am responding to the article in the Norwalk Hour about your committee examining the regulations re: gun carrying on city property. Your starting point was Mayor Rilling's request that you extend his prohibition of shooting game off Calf Pasture and Veterans Park.

I do support banning guns on city property. However, I am especially concerned about extending the restriction of hunting off Veterans Park shore. Here is why it seems a reasonable restriction. First, I do support game hunters in safe situations. Few things in life are more soothing and healing to the soul than being on the water to hunt or fish or be in any boat to enjoy nature. I am in total sympathy with hunters desiring access to watch and shoot ducks in the Norwalk Harbor and along the Norwalk Islands. My husband and son are deer hunters. We have family property in Goshen and they both enjoy skeet shooting there.

Back to extending the prohibition of hunting off Norwalk Calf Pasture and Veterans Park beaches, the problem is space. There is a very narrow section of the Norwalk River from the end of the South Norwalk Boat Club docks to the Washington Street Bridge. There a few years ago I was in a quad scull rowing north on the side of Veterans Park and I heard a ping, then I saw some shot hit my metal rigger. On each stroke my arms go out past the rigger and I realized with alarm I could have been hit by this shot. My friend in the seat next to me became alarmed too. Surely duck hunters would not shoot so close to pleasure boat and rowing boat traffic. Yes, though, they did. When I called to complain, the police said with sympathy that they could not do anything. And so, I do support restricting duck hunting off Veterans Park because it borders a very narrow part of the river and boaters have no where to escape a random shot. I feel we citizens can be on both sides of the gun issue. Licensed gun-carrying and use but in a safe and non-threatening way.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Flaherty-Ludwig

Member of the Maritime Rowing Club located on the Norwalk River.

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Bryan Rome <rome10@cox.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 9:56 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Subject: Chapter 38 Article 1 § 38-4 Amendment Input

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good evening,

I am currently enrolled in college and studying Criminal Justice, I recently heard about the upcoming decision on Tuesday and felt the need to send my input, while I have the chance to. I personally disagree with paragraphs A and B of the proposed amendment to Chapter 38. I believe as it is written paragraph A to be a violation of the State and Federal constitutions & unconsidering of it own practical effects. I disagree with paragraph B addition because I feel that the latter half of the paragraph is redundant and *remarkably* vague.

The amendment's addition of paragraph A calls for barring the use, carry, or possession of traditional firearms and pneumatic firearms by anyone other than authorized public or private sector security personnel in the execution of their duties on City owned or leased property. I believe this clearly violates the state's constitution specifically the Section 15 (*Conn. Const. art. I, § 15.*) and of course the Second Amendment of the federal constitution. CTInsider's article on this amendment to Chapter 38 states the argument that "Under Connecticut law, individual property owners can decide whether or not guns can be allowed on their land, which Shanahan said gives the city the right to ban guns on their property as well." I would greatly disagree with this stance, there exist a massive difference in what a body of governance and a private individual may do with their land, good, and services. For an example I am sure you are aware of, if a bigoted baker decides to decline to accept the commerce of a same sex couple in exchange for his services (*Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*) that is his poor choice to make. But when states attempted to restrict a same sex couples from their service of marriage (*Obergefell v. Hodges*) the Supreme Court ruled against the states. I would not disagree that private individuals have the right to bar entrants of their property from bearing arms but I would object to the notion that that same right applies to a municipality.

Stepping off of the legal aspect and into the crime reduction perspective on paragraph A, this amendment intends to reduce violent crime in Norwalk but I feel that practical effects of such a change have not been fully considered by it's proponents. I would suggest that by barring upstanding members of the community from concealed carrying on City property you would see an increase in many negative things like people leaving handguns in their, hopefully locked, cars. Which raises an issue, firearms being stolen from vehicles is a large problem in the nearby area. I would draw your eyes to 9 miles West of Norwalk to the city of Stamford, not even two weeks ago a Stamford man had a 9mm Glock handgun loaded with ten bullets (a compliant handgun under the state's regulations) stolen from his own car. Another oversight that I feel is made with this change is due to a concept that exists in criminology where an attempt to reduce crime in a small area (by say installing security cameras) displaces criminal activity that would have occurred there into other nearby areas. I believe that by prohibiting the possession of firearms for self defense on City parks we would also see a form of

crime displacement. One where in places like parks and City beaches see an increase in crimes like petty theft of unattended items, robberies, and quite possibly even more violent offenses.

Paragraph B commands that "... nor shall any person other than those excluded herein, use, carry, or possess any spring gun, bow and arrow, crossbow, sling, or any kind of trapping device, or any other weapon or device potentially harmful to birds, reptiles, or animals and dangerous to human safety in or on any City owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach, or other recreation property or facility." As I understand it, the purpose of this paragraph is to restrict the possession of items used in hunting or trapping from city property to prevent poaching and reduce accidents. What I feel is objectively an issue with this paragraph is specifically the section "... nor shall any person... use, carry, or possess *any ... device potentially harmful* to birds, reptiles, or animals and dangerous to human safety in or on any City owned or leased property..." This is clearly overly inclusive and would prohibit far beyond the intended target of this amendment. '*Any device potentially harmful to wildlife or humans*' firstly would not even require it to be proven that a device is in fact deadly to charge citizens with this violation and secondly includes countless items which it does not intend to like automobiles, pocket knives, and epinephrine pens. All of which are objectively 1) a device 2) potentially harmful to either birds reptiles, or animals & 3) have to capability to be dangerous to humans. Even if this amendment does ultimately get passed the very least you can do prior to that would be fixing this section before that happens. It is most definitely only poorly worded legislation to come from our state but paragraph B is by far the most dangerously worded one that I've read.

All considerations appreciated,

Bryan Rome

Candela, Brian

From: Steve Palmer <sjpalmer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 1:14 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Opposition to firearms ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Members of the Norwalk Common Council,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed ban on carrying firearms on or in Norwalk city property. The only reason to pass such a prohibition is to merely give the illusion of safety. Signs only stop the law abiding, while those intent on causing harm will find themselves unopposed. A quick scan of The Norwalk Hour shows many stories about felons illegally in possession of a firearm arrested during the commission of another crime. If true safety is desired, guards with metal detectors must be stationed at the entrances to all facilities so placarded to restrict entry. Anything else is just security theater.

Thank you for your time.

Steen Palmer
Norwalk

Candela, Brian

From: Kelly L. Straniti <kstraniti@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:56 AM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Cc: Candela, Brian; 'Tom Keegan'; Kelly L. Straniti
Subject: Proposed gun ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ordinance Committee Members – Please vote against the proposed gun ban. As a life-long Norwalk resident it is disturbing to know that the City intends to greatly limit my ability to protect myself. This ban would make me and others vulnerable when I am walking in the woods of Cranbury Park, or going out to dinner or shopping in SoNo or on Wall Street. I am not a random person with a gun but rather a woman who has gone through extensive training and a thorough background check. We all know that people who commit crimes with firearms are not abiding by the law and so this ban won't detract them. It would impact law abiding citizens like myself and lets the criminals know that these areas are now opportune places for them to commit crimes and prey on innocent people who aren't able to defend themselves.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kelly L. Straniti

Kelly L. Straniti
kstraniti@optonline.net
203.515.0617 - p 203.642.4549 - f

Candela, Brian

From: Jose Lozada <Pckmstr15@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:19 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Ban on carry on public property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom it may concern: I believe that this proposed legislation will do nothing to stop criminals from doing crimes. Furthermore it makes criminals and victims out of LAW ABIDING CITIZENS who under the second amendment have a GOD given right to defend themselves.

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: nehpetesd@optonline.net
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Norwalk Gun Ban

Importance: High

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian – Good morning. I have a true event that took place earlier this year that directly affects my position on this topic.

On May 24th, my 10 year-old daughter and I went for a walk in Cranbury Park. We encountered a vicious dog, not on a leash, and a horrible dog owner that had zero verbal command of her dog. We had stopped and moved off the trail to provide “social distance” and allow them to pass. Out of nowhere the dog went around me and attacked my daughter. The dog was not provoked in any fashion. The dog bit my daughter on the leg, and I was able to step between her and the dog. I was able to get the dog back a few feet before the owner arrived. The dog was still wanting to attack both of us, and the owner never had verbal command of her dog. It finally resolved itself by me and owner getting between my daughter and the dog, and me yelling at the owner to leash her dog. The dog reeled back when I yelled. 2 weeks later we encountered the same dog and owner, again not on a leash and no verbal command. I was able to grab the dog before it got to my daughter and “redirect” it away. It was going after her again. At no time were there any NPD officials near Cranbury Park.

With this proposed legislation, I will be deprived of an ability to defend myself and my daughter’s life, if a similar situation repeats itself and does not get as easily resolved. I shudder to think what would have taken place if there were two rabid/vicious dogs. I am against this legislation in all its forms. As a law-abiding citizen, I should have the choice/ability to defend myself when a life is in danger. You mentioned that people can file a lawsuit if they choose. If the city passes this horrible legislation, and my family’s life is put into a deadly encounter, I will sue each person that voted to pass/approve (if I live). They will have a direct correlation to preventing me from protecting my family’s life.

I am not aware of any problems or crimes being committed by people legally carrying a firearm at the beach, in a park, or in any building where it is currently allowed. Please provide this to all the members of the council, and do not pass this proposed legislation. Thank you.

-Eugene Derfinyak
Seir Hill Rd.
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:45 AM
To: Gary Leeds
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Gary

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into the record on Tuesday night at our meeting.

Lisa

From: Gary Leeds <gleeds88@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:14 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa
I support passing an ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free. The ordinance should in no way be an attempt to interfere with gun ownership rights. Norwalk citizens should feel safe to visit City Hall and to speak at city meetings without fear. In addition, guns should not be in our city beaches and recreational spaces where children play, or in parks hosting events where alcoholic beverages might be consumed.

I hope you are able to pass this ordinance for our town

Gary

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Kathy Leeds
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: GUN ORDINANCE

Kathy...

Thank you so much for your comments. They will be read into the record on Tuesday night.

Lisa

From: Kathy Leeds <kcleeds@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:55 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: GUN ORDINANCE

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We heartily agree with the proposed Gun Ordinance. Long overdue and much appreciated!

~~~~~  
Kathy and Gary Leeds  
203-505-4059  
[kcleeds@gmail.com](mailto:kcleeds@gmail.com)  
~~~~~

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:52 AM
To: Christopher Zins
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Norwalk Resident/Duck Enthusiast of Couch Street, Clarification on Transport of a Firearm , Thoughts on Ordinance in Regards to Hunting Access

Thank you for your comments. They will be read into the record on Tuesday night.

Lisa

From: Christopher Zins <christopher.zins@uconn.edu>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 9:22 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Resident/Duck Enthusiast of Couch Street, Clarification on Transport of a Firearm , Thoughts on Ordinance in Regards to Hunting Access

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To the members of the ordinance committee,

My name is Chris and I am a resident of South Norwalk. I had several concerns about the proposed town ordinance on firearm possession after reading the minutes from page 4 of the Regular Meeting on October 20th.

I hunt waterfowl and a blanket ban on firearms greatly restricts my access to areas that are well outside of Norwalk Harbor. The Federal Government has opened most of Sheffield and Chimon Islands to waterfowl and deer hunting, though to safely access them one needs to transport a firearm from the Norwalk boat launch to them. Tidal waters along the coast that are legal to hunt and well away from people are also accessible only via this launch. [Tidal waters being all the areas below the highest point of "high tide" that are usually covered with water, to be clear]

If this ordinance would pass in the fullest extent, it would prevent myself, an incredibly nice highschooler and his father from Darien that I am teaching to hunt, and many others within the city/surrounding area from safely accessing these legal hunting grounds.

If the ordinance is dead set on being passed, could the prohibition be tailored to loaded firearms? An unloaded firearm, separate from the ammunition, is how hunters commonly transport their equipment as a loaded hunting implement is not allowed before legal hunting hours (when they travel out of the boat launches on town property).

Additionally, no one can directly hunt on town property like Calf Pasture Beach without verbal or written permission from a town authority per state law. To my understanding, the land is treated as "Private Land" and a written permission slip must be obtained. The DEEP has closed the hunting 200 feet from the shore of Calf Pasture Beach where most of the hunting complaints occurred while they evaluate the safety of the area. The

area will most likely be closed to waterfowl hunting permanently along with the harbor post DEEP findings, as the hunting occurred below the high tide mark previously and the 200ft boundary prevents hunting near most of the beach areas.

Lastly, town ordinances in regards to hunting are always a grey area that usually is deferred to the state. There is currently an ordinance [38-2. B.] that limits the use of shot to #4 that is debatably unenforceable since hunting regulations default to the State DEEP and Legislature. Changing the ordinance to #1 shot would be more amenable but moot since a waterfowl hunting, within tidal waters, is under state jurisdiction.

-<https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-xpm-1999-04-27-9904270165-story.html>

-<https://caselaw.findlaw.com/ct-superior-court/1286809.html>

[Judge Robert Hale wrote that ". . . in the area of hunting regulation, the state has occupied the field. Thus, the defendant East Hartford lacks the authority to regulate hunting and [the ordinance] is invalid . . ." (The Hartford Courant, 1999)]

Writing regulations is difficult and if anyone were in your shoes, there would be a lot of tough interests to balance. I commend the Committee for the questions asked in the minutes and the discussion being had! Hunting is not a majority activity as it once was and being considerate is important to all sides. That being said, access from boat launches like these is paramount to safe and legal duck hunting and it can be done in a way to not disturb or endanger the public. If I can help make that possible, please let me know.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if you have any specific questions or comments. I am happy to help answer any questions to the best of my ability or discuss things as a waterfowl hunter, duck enthusiast, and Norwalk resident.

Take care and stay healthy!

Christopher Zins

Candela, Brian

From: Keegan, Tom
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa; Livingston, Thomas P.; Revolus, Diana; Heuvelman, David; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny
Subject: Fw: City gun ban

FYI from a resident

From: Bruce Root <surveman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 11:37 AM
To: Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: FW: City gun ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Had wrong e-mail I guess

From: Bruce Root <surveman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 11:32 AM
To: tkeegan@norwalkct.gov
Subject: City gun ban

Dear Mr. Keegan;

Thank you for speaking with me this morning concerning the proposed ban on guns in City facilities. As a seventy year resident of Norwalk and a legally licensed pistol holder, I would like to make my voice strongly heard in opposition to this proposed ban. To the best of my knowledge Norwalk does not have a history of men and women roaming the streets with guns, terrorizing the inhabitants. It seems as if someone is just looking to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

I understand that there are many people who have never fired a gun, be it a pistol, rifle or shotgun, that have been conditioned to believe all guns are evil. I understand that a person doing 'open carry' might seem intimidating to a person with such beliefs. Most if not all of the men and women that I know who enjoy the shooting sports carry concealed. The problem I foresee is an innocent of any crime individual being stopped on City property and then being arrested for being in possession of a firearm. Gun owners pay taxes, vote, obey the law and in all other matters are valuable members of society. It is immoral to attempt to legislate against their rights based on what someone else doesn't like.

I would also like to speak against a ban on duck hunting. I am not a hunter but again it is an activity that occurs for a very short span of time and it is wrong to eradicate the rights of one group of citizens.

I thank you again for your time and attention. I sincerely hope your fellow Council members will give serious thought to these proposed bans, remembering that we all share Norwalk equally, we all have our own activities that we enjoy and that we all have rights to enjoy life, in a legal manner of course, without being oppressed by the whims of one group or another.

Bruce Root
Aiken Street
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Victor Coppola <viccoppola@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 12:23 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Ban On Firearms On All City Owned And Leased Facilities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela,

I am aware the Ordinance Council Committee is debating a proposed ban on firearms on all City-owned and leased facilities. Based on watching the Ordinance Council Committee meeting, this ban would include Beaches, Parks, and Municipal Parking Lots as well. It appears there are many issues with this proposed ordinance and I ask you to reconsider it based on these four fundamental questions- 1) Is there a problem that needs to be solved? 2) is this Ordinance necessary to accomplish this or are there other alternatives? 3) How will the Ordinance be enforced? 4) Where will the Ordinance be in effect?

It appears the Committee has not identified a problem that needs to be solved. For example, members cited complaints about hunters in City parks (properly designated areas) as one reason for the proposal. However, the Chief of Police stated there were "very few complaints" and "Hunters were abiding by the laws". Another Committee member stated the reason for this ordinance was to "protect employees and citizens". Again, the Chief of Police stated they have not received any complaints nor have they cited anyone or made any arrests.

After watching the posted video of the Ordinance Council Committee meeting, the details of these restrictions and their enforcement are unclear to many including Committee members. Chairperson Shanahan made the comment "violating this ordinance does not mean someone is breaking the law", but the Police Chief had to correct her and said, "Yes, they would be violating the law and could be arrested". Another member asked if signs would be posted in all areas where these restrictions are in effect so people would be aware. The Committee could not come to a clear conclusion on posting. Another point was if it was not clearly posted, could it be enforced? Nobody had a clear answer. If I understand CT State law, any owner can forbid the presence of firearms by posting a sign stating as such. So, I must ask, why the need for an Ordinance? Why not simply post signs at each City building?

Last, it was not clear to me, and perhaps the Committee as well, what the boundaries of this ordinance would be. According to the language, it states "All City-owned, leased property and facilities". This would include recreational facilities, beaches, parks, and municipal parking lots. What is not clear to me and many others is will this eventually include Sidewalks and Streets? If not, how can I be assured?

If the intent of the Committee is to protect law-abiding citizens, then let's work on a way to get weapons out of the hands of those using or possessing them illegally. Those meaning to do harm will do so with or without this Ordinance. The ordinance proposed will only impact licensed gun owners who are law-abiding citizens.

I ask you to rethink your support for this proposed ordinance.

Best regards,

Victor Coppola
40 Esquire Road

Candela, Brian

From: Heuvelman, David
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa
Subject: Fw: Gun Ban

This was sent to Tom Keegan, Nick Sacchinelli and myself. I do not know if it needs to be read into the record.

Best Regards,

David

--

David Heuvelman
Common Council
District A
Norwalk, CT

dheuvelman@norwalkct.org
203.307.0287

From: Straniti, Kelly <kstraniti@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:00 AM
To: Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; 'Tom Keegan' <tomkeegan1024@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Gun Ban

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Hi Tom or David – Do you have another email for Nick and can you please forward this to him? My email came back as undeliverable.

Thank you!
Kelly

From: Kelly L. Straniti <kstraniti@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 4:58 AM
To: dheuvelman@norwalkct.org; nsacchinelli@norwalkct.org; Kelly L. Straniti <kstraniti@optonline.net>
Subject: Gun Ban

Hi Nick – Hope all is well! And hello, David – I don't believe we have met yet. I will keep this short, I'm sure you're getting tons of emails and calls about this matter. I am reaching out to you as fellow CT permit holders. I was hopeful by reading your comments and questions in Nancy on Norwalk that you may be voting against the gun ban. I am also hopeful you can educate your colleagues on the matter and explain how unnecessary and unconstitutional it is to prevent law abiding citizens from protecting ourselves in our home town. And, that we aren't random people walking around with guns but people who have gone through intensive training and background checks.

My husband and son are also permit holders and are very much against this proposal too.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Kelly

Kelly L. Straniti

kstraniti@optonline.net

203.515.0617 - p 203.642.4549 - f

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:05 PM
To: George Shanahan
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinances

Thank you for your comments. Your letter will be read into the record tomorrow evening.

From: George Shanahan <tonyshanahan@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinances

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ms. Shanahan,

I'm writing to you because the last Common Council Ordinance Committee meeting took up a discussion of guns on city property, and it appears that the next meeting, tomorrow night, will try to come to a conclusion on the matter. If I may, I'd like to offer my own opinion on the subject.

I'm against allowing firearms on city properties, including buildings, recreational areas, and parking lots. While I understand that the Second Amendment allows citizens to own guns, that amendment is neither an all-encompassing right nor a reason to endanger peaceful, law-abiding citizens. As a U.S. citizen, I also have a right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and allowing people to carry guns into city properties can threaten those rights. The fact that Connecticut is an open-carry state shouldn't mean that gun owners have a greater right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness than do non-gun owners; governmental decisions should seek to create a balance between the needs and desires of *all* of the affected constituents.

Ultimately, guns have one purpose: To cause harm to people, places, and/or things. While gun-rights advocates often claim that they carry firearms for their own protection, the truth is that the mere presence of a gun — in any situation — increases the odds that someone will be hurt or killed. That's true whether the person holding the gun is a police officer, a licensed citizen, or a rogue operator. Guns themselves don't have consciences, nor do their carriers have the ability to rewind a situation and erase the results of their actions. Once a gun is fired, the consequences of that action are written in stone — and rarely are the consequences good for all concerned.

It's often said, in regard to terrorism, that protective forces have to be right 100% of the time, while a terrorist just has to succeed once. Frankly, the same logic can be applied to gun-safety policies. A governmental committee has to make the right decision 100% of the time when it comes to finding the proper balance between liberty and safety. Once a gun is fired, the policy is essentially moot; the path of the bullet will determine whether or not the policy managed to achieve the necessary balance.

My fervent desire, therefore, is to see your committee ban guns from city properties. While allowing open-carry citizens to bring guns into and/or onto those properties may seem like the Constitutional thing to do, such a policy is exceedingly more likely to endanger citizens than protect them. Even if 99% of all gun carriers are law-abiding people who would never even think of using their firearms in city buildings, the potential threat of

that 1% of the gun-wielding population makes this decision an easy one from my perspective: To ensure the protection of your constituents, you need to enact a policy that forbids anyone from bringing a gun onto any government-owned and/or -operated site.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

George Shanahan
Norwalk resident

Candela, Brian

From: Betty Ball <bettyballusa@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa; Common Council
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Members of the Norwalk Common Council and Lisa Shanahan, Ordinance Committee Chair:

Please make our Norwalk City premises, beaches and parks gun free.

I have lived in Norwalk for almost 33 years. I support the ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to **make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free**. It is important to keep our City employees safe. They are not permitted to carry guns in the workplace, as the State of Connecticut does not allow guns in the State house nor in the municipal buildings and parks. Norwalk residents should feel safe to visit City Hall and to speak at city meetings without fear. I believe that guns should not be in our city beaches and recreational spaces where children play, nor in parks hosting events where alcoholic beverages might be consumed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C Ball
10 Green Beech Drive
Norwalk, CT

203-831-0235

Candela, Brian

From: j berry <jberry@jberrydesign.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Subject: Firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Brian and Common Council Members,

I have read the proposal on banning firearms on public property and was wondering how this would work if carrying a firearm to the range outside of town. Is there any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property improves public safety? Appears we do not have a gun issue in town and my concern is tax dollars are spent were needed the most (which isnt this).

Regards,
James Berry

Candela, Brian

From: Eleanor Carroll <eleanorcarroll25@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms ban

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Council Members,

Please tell me I heard wrong that you are proposing to ban firearms on city property. Having survived an abusive relationship, I now carry a gun for personal protection constantly. Banning guns would remove my protections and I would be fearful to travel with my lunatic x seeking to do harm. Should any harm happen to me because of this I would have no choice but to sue the city. I am very disappointed you are fighting to take away our protections.

Eleanor, Life long resident.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 3:48 PM
To: mf aawinc.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Letter to The Norwalk Common Council re: Gun Ban Ordinance

Thank you for your email, Mary. It will be read tomorrow evening.

Lisa

From: mf aawinc.com <mf@aawinc.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Letter to The Norwalk Common Council re: Gun Ban Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities and waterfowl hunting in the Calf Pasture Beach area. I support this statute to apply to city all "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Mary Finnegan

10 Farm Creek Road

Norwalk, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Mary Greater
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Mary ~

Thank you so much for your comments, they will be read into the record tomorrow evening.

Lisa

From: Mary Greater <mbgerster@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 4:31 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

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I encourage passage of a bill prohibiting guns on public beaches, parks, town offices , courts, schools , libraries and any other public buildings. We should all be free from fear in entering any of these places with our children or on our own.

Mary Brennan Gerster
53 Rowayton ave
Norwalk CT
06853

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Michael Bego <mikebego@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:10 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Please do not ban firearms in Norwalk

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Brian,

As a resident with young children who cares about the community, I ask you to **please do not ban firearms as is being contemplated this week in Norwalk**. Individuals being able to carry let's us protect ourselves and our families and also is a deterrent against criminals. The ability to carry has been shown to substantially reduce the incidence of criminal activities and substantially reduce the severity as law abiding citizens can protect themselves.

- Why is the committee targeting law-abiding residents who are legally permitted and protected under the second amendment?
- Why is the Ordinance Committee focusing on the law abiding citizens vs those who are committing the crimes? Would not a stop and frisk approach like has been extremely successful in New York reduce crime better than going after your constituency?
- For citizens who do not have their rights enforced by being able to carry arms on public property, could you reduce the tax burden imposed on us for operation on these premises? State and federal law both support tax allowance compensation for reduced rights as proposed by the Ordinance Committee.

Many thanks,
Mike

Candela, Brian

From: christian perry <perrychristian@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:14 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk guns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Please forward to the powers that be...

“It is absurd that you would want to take away guns from the firearm educated, licensed and ethical people of Norwalk. This has not been thought through well enough.
Take them away from unlicensed people. They are not supposed to have them anyways.
Leave law abiding citizens to enjoy their 2nd amendment rights.”

Christian Perry
Grand Development LLC
818-321-0539



Candela, Brian

From: Peter Healy <phealy3330@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:20 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa; Livingston, Thomas P.; Roberts, Kadeem; Keegan, Tom; Dominique Johnson; Langella, Manny; Heuvelman, David
Subject: Public Comments on Proposed Firearm Ban Ordinance
Attachments: MillPond1.jpg; MillPond2.jpg

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My name is Peter Healy, I live on First Street in East Norwalk.
I am writing to express my concerns that the changes proposed by the Ordinance committee to Section 38 of the Norwalk city code are a bad idea and represent a solution seeking a problem.

The proposed changes will not enhance public safety or enjoyment of the recreational facilities in the City of Norwalk. But they will put an onerous and obnoxious burden on citizens exercising their rights as lawful hunters and Connecticut firearm carry permit holders.

Based on the ordinance as written there is significant ambiguity and over-broad language . Are sidewalks City property? Are the Norwalk Parking Authority parking lots City owned? If they are, is there a difference between a garage and a parking lot? Are people actually worried about this?

Based on the prior discussion in Committee meetings and Local press pieces it seems clear that people are not currently complaining about seeing individuals in our parks with firearms and the funny part is that if this ordinance is amended people are *more* likely to see this. By requiring people to remove their concealed firearms and stow them in their vehicles every time they want to step foot onto city property- there will actually be more instances of individuals displaying a firearm to public view, instead of leaving them properly concealed.

With respect to enacting a hunting ban as the primary driver of this over-broad proposal, if you look at the regular waterfowl hunting season it does not even overlap with the typical outdoor recreation season. With the exception of a few weeks in September, I don't know many families enjoying a swim and a picnic in December or January.

Obviously yes, the beach and Vet's park are still popular locations for people to park and watch the water even in the Winter months. Even still, the hours hunters are out in the park also typically don't overlap with when people are going to the parks off-season.

I used to walk through Vet's park every single day. I don't currently because dogs aren't allowed and I've had a delightful senior dog adopted from PAWS for almost a year now.

But, when I did walk through every morning, I would regularly see these hunters.

They were not reckless yahoos. They were diligent individuals that were required to get a hunting license and comply with State and Federal regulations.

Not a single time did I ever witness a dangerous incident or problem with them being there in dozens and dozens of encounters.

Consider that no one is more concerned with safety and not upsetting the public than those hunters, why would

they want to invite calamity and lose access to their activities?

Additionally, I only regularly saw the hunters in the morning- never in the afternoons.

The folks hunting were typically cleared out by 9 or 10AM.

I also run at least once a week at different times or the day, often at the beach and parks.

The peak times I see people in the parks are around lunch time, between 11AM and 2PM, well after the hunters have packed it up for the day.

So this idea that somehow the hunters are a danger to the public is pretty silly, I was walking by them every day not 50 feet away during non-peak use times and never had an issue. I was actually incredibly surprised at how quiet the whole affair was, even with several hunters discharging shotguns nearby it wasn't nearly as loud as your typical outdoor shooting range and I certainly wasn't getting bird-shot raining down on my head.

Our public amenities are for everyone. Even if not everyone agrees on the activities, all lawful activities on public property should be respected and protected. I'm not a hunter myself but I respect the right of those who are to enjoy their hobby unfettered. I thought it was in particularly bad taste and a supremely bad faith move by the City to have DEEP kill last year's hunting season with no-notice, literally a week before it was set to begin.

So the hunters aren't reckless or endangering the public, what about the rest of those holding a CT carry permit? Between the safety course, passport photos, multiple background check fees, the fee for the permit itself and all of the money orders, printing, time, effort and notarization required it costs roughly \$500 just to get the permit. That's before even purchasing any firearms or storage(as required by updated safe-storage statutes).

Coupled with a wait time from the State that goes well beyond what's allowable by the Statutes it is no simple feat to obtain a Connecticut carry permit.

When you finally do get the permit it means that the Local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies have vetted you and they found no valid reason why you should not be allowed to possess and carry a firearm.

After all of that effort, due to ordinances like these at the local level you're not only required to know the Federal and State laws and regulations but also required to look up and study 169 different towns' local ordinances? It's really beyond egregious and an undue burden on people just trying to live their lives and exercise their rights.

Connecticut statute already prohibits carrying firearms in State Parks, Schools and anywhere posted. Norwalk City Hall, the Norwalk Police Department and Health Department are already posted as no-carry zones. Including outdoor amenities and their parking areas due to the over-broad language makes it impossible for permit holders to exercise their rights and still make use of the public amenities.

Look, I've been a Norwalk resident for several years and love this city. Partly because we thread the needle so well between Big City amenities and an easy-going small town lifestyle.

I grew up in a hamlet of the Town of Brookhaven in Suffolk county. The Town of Brookhaven is famous for aggressively obnoxious code enforcement and over-regulation. They have teams just driving around looking for staircases on houses to ding people for an illegal accessory dwelling unit, they're fining people for recycling violations, and they're somehow always there 30 seconds after your meter expires to whack you with a parking ticket.

I think we could do better in some areas of code enforcement here, like keeping the sidewalks clear of trash cans and overgrowth or actually enforcing no dogs in the parks(or just give up the ghost and let dogs into Vet's park so I can use it again!)

But, this kind of ordinance drifts us away from the sweet spot. These changes are just another unnecessary burden on our citizens and a waste of Police time to enforce.

I get that people unfamiliar with firearms and opposed to them don't like the idea of people walking around with them but, this is the reality of a free, civil society. Sometimes people will do things you don't like or agree with but we have to be judicious about what we spend our legislative time on. We've also got to be aware when something proposed is just cruft not a solution to an actual problem. It's ultimately fruitless cruft taking up space on our books.

There are actual problems to solve in the world. We still don't have universal health care, a proper social safety net. We have an opioid epidemic, homelessness and who could forget- a *global pandemic* with no end in sight. The amount of effort expended on solutions to non-existent problems like these firearm ordinances is really sad.

Consider some of these simple scenarios that may have been overlooked:

1. Person needs to stop at City Hall for [Clerk/Tax Collector/Etc]
Under this new ordinance they must not use the City Hall parking area
 - Park on Beacon St or Eversley Ave
 - Expose the firearm to view of the public as it's being stowed
 - Leave the firearm unattended in the vehicle parked on-street
 - Walk all the way over to City Hall

Today, as least you would be minimizing the risk of the vehicle being broken in to because it would be in the City Hall parking lot under surveillance and the time spent away from the vehicle would be shorter.

2. Person is doing the right thing by recycling electronics instead of just dumping them in the trash
Under this new ordinance this individual doing the thankless task of trying to save the environment has to
 - Park on Crescent St if it's even legal to do so, they may have to park as far as Quincy street
 - Expose the firearm to view of the public as it's being stowed
 - Leave the firearm unattended in the vehicle parked on-street
 - Haul their e-waste on foot a quarter of a mile down the road

Today an individual can simply drive in, drop the stuff off and be gone without anyone ever knowing or caring that they are carrying a concealed firearm.

3. Person returning a book to the Belden Ave Main Library drop box(Not even entering to browse)
 - Must NOT use the library parking lot as this is City Property(? I suppose discerning this would be part of hours of ordinance research a permit holder must do)
 - Park somewhere on Mott Ave and pay to park for 1 hour for a 5 minute errand OR park on Byington Place(and walk ~2/10th of a mile to the drop box)
 - Expose the firearm to view of the public as it's being stowed
 - Leave the firearm unattended in the vehicle parked on-street

This new ordinance happens to also be de-facto anti-walking and anti-biking.

You can't stow your firearm if you don't have a vehicle, and in the particular case above you can't walk up to the drop box at the Library without being on City Property.

You can also no longer walk the Harbor Loop Trail as intended because it passes through:

- Oyster Shell Park (is the outside asphalt driveway that connects to City property? Now you have to spend time researching before just taking a walk)

- Pine Island Cemetery
- The grounds of Lockwood–Mathews Mansion
- Union Park- This is maintained by the First Taxing District, technically not the City's property? More research required.
- Riverside Park, behind the Avalon, is this City property? Research required.
- Irving Freese Park
- Ryan Park? I haven't been on the loop in a while, I can't remember exactly but I feel like it's a 3 foot section of grass and a dilapidated bench behind the Condos on Daskams Lane.
- Behind the Wastewater Treatment plant, surely City property?

Another really great example is Mill Pond Park. I've even attached a photo to help illustrate how absurd it is to label outdoor spaces as no-firearm zones.

Will we build a fence? Put up tons of signage? All to solve a non-existent problem.

Is the parking lot next to Mill Pond City Property?

Can one use the bike rack or is that already over the no-firearm line?

This is all a lot of noise and waste of time without providing the public with any real value.

NOT A
FELONY

PATH TO FELONY





Candela, Brian

From: rcyoung@optonline.net
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: rcyoung@optonline.net
Subject: Ban Guns on Public Property in Norwalk?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Reportedly, Norwalk wants to ban guns on public property?

If this is true, I have a number of questions/observations for you:

1. Have you heard of the Second Amendment and the right to bear Arms?
2. Why is the committee targeting its most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?
3. We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the State.
4. Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just "feel good"? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?
5. Do you think for a moment, criminals will abide by this law?
6. Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?
7. Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?
8. Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?
9. If you were ever mugged, wouldn't you be delighted if a good Samaritan with a lawful pistol permit came to your, or your family's aid?

Clearly, this proposal has not been well thought through.

Regards,

Robert Young

Candela, Brian

From: CATERBONE <jcat6@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: right to cary

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please do not my amend my rights to carry with a permit in public.

J Caterbone

Candela, Brian

From: Frank Vozza <fvozza@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Ordinance Committee wants to ban firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please note my objection to the proposed ban on firearms on city owned property.

The proposal serves no useful purpose. Further, it is vague on its face, does it include streets and sidewalks too?

If it does it effectively precludes lawful carry of firearms by lawful permittees virtually anywhere in Norwalk.

Presently prospective gun owners must go through the vigorous vetting, background checks and extremely detailed and thorough application for a pistol permit through either the local police department or the CT state police.

Unfortunately, this smacks of a political stunt initiated by the uninformed. What purpose does this serve?

What has happened that makes this proposed ordinance suddenly necessary?

Note my strong objection to this ban,

Yours, etc.

Frank Vozza

Greenwich CT

Candela, Brian

From: JOHN VIESTA <jviestaiii@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:59 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Common Council Ordinance Committee meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Mr. Candela,
I've come to learn that tomorrow's Common Council Ordinance Committee has an agenda item regarding citizens second amendment rights.
I respectfully submit the following questions / thoughts on how and why it is believed that this is a good restriction for law-abiding citizens:

Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Respectfully,
John

Candela, Brian

From: Joe Munoz- adspinmedia <adspinmedia@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:07 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: proposal on a firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian,

I wanted to share this with you.

We are not “random people”, we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

--

Joe Munoz
Bell Haven CT 06830
www.adspinmedia.com
Greenwich, CT:(203) 542-5270
Queens, NY:(347) 674-0475
Scarsdale, NY(914) 288-5004
New York City, NY(212) 851-3282
Fax Number 1-866-301-8763

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Candela, Brian

From: Luigi Ceci <gigino1@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:18 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I'm in opposition of this ban, it will take away the right to carry and protect yourself.
This will encourage bad people to attack, rob or arm laws by the citizens. That's what bad people are looking for, a place where they know nobody is armed and ready to defend themselves.
Thanks

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Brian Rivers <brianrivers@optonline.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:31 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Common council Ordinance Committee Proposal to ban Firearms on city owned Property & Facilities

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Sir,

Please advise the Committee that this idea makes no sense, and will endanger public welfare. Such a ban would create identifiable spaces where criminals (who don't follow the law) know that no one will be able to resist them if they want to do harm or commit crimes. Such a ban would actually create Unsafe environments and put Norwalk's (as well as other) citizens in danger. Such a poor idea is not worthy of the committee and should never be instituted

Respectfully,
Brian Rivers
Old Greenwich

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:36 PM
To: Molly Gerster
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you Molly. Your comments will be read into the record tomorrow evening.

LisaShanahan

From: Molly Gerster <mollygerster@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa, I am writing to express my support for the ban on guns in city building beaches and parks. I do not think it is safe to have guns at these places where there are many people and children playing.

Thank you
Molly Gerster
7 Parkview RD
Norwalk, CT 06853

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Candela, Brian

From: cpdevita16 <cpdevita16@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Gun Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please do not infringe on our 2nd ammendment right to keep and bear arms and defend ourselves, we are law abiding citizens. Also do not hinder our ability to legally hunt waterfowl or other game by restricting access to or threw public lands.

Thank You,

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Candela, Brian

From: Tom P <gaiusnyc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: November Committee meeting
Attachments: Misguided Norwalk.docx

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dearest Mr Candela,

Please find my opinion on this troubling topic.

Sincerely,

tom Philippides
Wilton, CT

November 16,2020

Mr. Brian Candela, Esq,
Assistant Corporate Counsel
City of Norwalk, Connecticut

Dearest Mr. Candela,

It is with grave concern which I am contacting you in reference to the Common Counsels Ordinance Committee's' proposal to obfuscate the integrity of Connecticut State Firearms law. The thought process in proposing this notion is clearly an attempt at using the bully pulpit of procedure, to ensnare citizens who are exercising their legal right of self-defense under the guise of "public safety" to further an agenda. The irony here is the passage of this ordinance will decrease the safety of our citizens, police, and businesses in many respects. I am sure having been a trial attorney you are familiar at the open ended liability the City of Norwalk will incur in the case of a law abiding citizen being a victim of crime due to the passage of this illegal ordinance.

In these tragic days of unchecked criminality directed toward society and our police, it is entirely the wrong effect, to pass this ordinance which is inconsistent with the letter of the State law. You are seeing the flight of productive citizens and business from many areas, including New York City due to the existence of such laws. It is not such a stretch to see that the carcinogenic nature of ordinances such as the one proposed leading to such flight from the fragile economy of Norwalk.

Please strike this proposed ordinance from the books, and your minds.

Feel free to contact me at thus email address if you have any further questions.

Tom Philippides

Candela, Brian

From: Matthew Lund <mlund1956@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Ordinance Committee questions

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please explain how this ordinance is not a prior restraint violation upon and a suppression of my 2nd Amendment rights.

We are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

I would suggest that the ordinance committee focus their attention on curbing criminal activity rather than on harassing law abiding citizens with useless laws that criminals have proven time and time again they won't obey.

Kind Regards,

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Candela, Brian

From: Anthony Starpoli <astar@pobox.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 6:59 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Anti-Gun Policies

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Sir/Madame,

Why is the committee targeting the law-abiding gun permit holders of Connecticut?

I am an individual that has been approved to carry in public places after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by the state.

You are risking taking away my right to defend myself leaving me exposed to criminals who do have weapons.

Please explain the logic in this proposed legislation that violates my right to bear arms.

AA Starpoli,MD

Candela, Brian

From: Peter Williams <pj.will@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:05 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: City of Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee - Firearms Proposal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Sir,

Why is the committee targeting its most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Connecticut?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the local chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by our municipality and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Thank you.

Candela, Brian

From: Bruce Gallo <gallo.bruce@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:05 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Right to carry

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Why is it that one becomes a felon by stepping over an imaginary line ? Why is Norwalk council allowing only one that disregards the state laws and to carry an illegal firearm on to your proposed zoning change areas. Good law biding citizens not allowed their rights of protection . Please reconsider your zoning plans about the right to carry on certain public areas

Candela, Brian

From: kamel ghandour <khghandour@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:22 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: City gun ban?

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello. How are you?

A friend told me about Norwalk's upcoming gun ban. A friend told me about Norwalk's upcoming gun ban.

Just for my own education:
how will banning lawful guns on city property/sidewalk/roads/parking lots stop criminals from doing the same thing?

Thank you for educating me.
Kamél Ghandour
413-626-5160

Candela, Brian

From: S F <odinsep@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:27 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good Day Brian,

I sincerely hope that you read this email and don't just cast it aside to be ignored. I think those of you meeting tomorrow evening really need to think about what is the purpose of putting these laws in place and what you seek to accomplish.

These new laws will not do anything to curb violence in our city, since thugs who are intent on committing crime with a firearm are not going to care whether a gun is allowed there or not - by their nature they are criminals, and the act they wish to commit is already far worse than just carrying a gun somewhere they shouldn't (and chances are they are not legally allowed to be in possession of a gun anyway, so again what will this accomplish?).

PUTTING THIS LAW IN PLACE WILL PUT THE PUBLIC AT FURTHER RISK AND WILL ONLY ENCOURAGE CRIMINALS TO COMMIT VIOLENT CRIMES IN SUCH AREAS AS THEY KNOW THE LAW ABIDING CITIZEN WILL BE UNARMED THERE. That is why so many attacks that do occur are in "gun free" zones - criminals know no one will have any way to resist them or defend themselves.

What we need are harsher penalties for the criminals committing these crimes, going after the legal gun owner does nothing to make our city safer - he is not breaking the law. How often do we hear of parolees or ex-cons committing crimes with guns that have violent criminal histories already? Why are they being released to walk on our streets with a slap on the wrist for previous crimes???

Instead, you want to impose new laws that will only make law-abiding citizens who are exercising their 2nd amendment rights of self defense into criminals merely by possession of a gun they are legally allowed/permitted to carry. Gun owners are not just random strangers that are intent on shooting everything in sight or wanting to cause any harm. They are friends, neighbors and colleagues that have taken the necessary steps and paid the associated fees to be approved to carry in public places by the Chief of Police with multiple background checks, fingerprinting etc. It is statically correct that licensed gun owners, as a population, are more law abiding than the average citizen (please read the article in the attached link) as they respect and value the right to own a gun and would never want to jeopardize that. So why are we targeting law abiding citizens?

It is also a fact that one of a criminal's greatest fears is an armed victim (again, read the attached article). I 100% support our police, but they cannot be everywhere all the time and often by the time they get there, the dirty deed has been done. It is the same reason you have a fire extinguisher in your kitchen, or insurance on your valuables - you hope to NEVER need it, but it is comforting to know it is there in case you do.

It is not a good idea to be stripping away our constitutional rights. The 2nd Amendment as well as our 1st Amendment are under attack (since exercising free speech now often results in personal attacks by the "cancel culture" that seek to harass and ruin the lives of those that disagree with them) - this is all a dangerous direction for America.

I implore you to share this email as well as the attached article with those on the committee you are meeting tomorrow. Whether or not you agree with gun ownership, it gives a lot of very good insight/facts/figures, all of which are supported with evidence from various studies, with links to supporting studies etc through the article that I wish are taken into consideration.

<https://libertarianinstitute.org/articles/gun-ownership-in-america/>

Thank you for taking the time to read this email and the associated article in the link.

Sincerely,
30 year resident of Norwalk.

Candela, Brian

From: Felix Andreoni <felixandreoni@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Felix Andreoni
Subject: [BULK] Firearms Ban

Importance: Low

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To: Mr. Brian Candela

The **Second Amendment** to the United States Constitution was adopted in 1791. ... It gives American citizens the right to bear arms. This **means** that people can keep weapons such as guns to protect themselves. It is my understanding that Norwalk Ct Committee wants to place a ban on firearms on public city owned property and city facilities. This would be a clear infringement on my second amendment rights as I have been carrying a firearm with a Connecticut State Pistol Permit for 45 years now. I will be the first in line to bring a Lawsuit against the City of Norwalk CT if this Gun restricting ordinance is in place that would be a clear violation of my Second Amendment Rights to bear arms for my protection. Especially in this day and age with all the violence that is happening that could flair up at any place it would take away my ability to protect myself and my life. Criminals do not care about any gun laws. What you should be doing is making more laws that would not release a first time offenders if they were caught committing a crime with a weapon and impose a mandatory jail sentence in your city this would be a deterrent. Criminals do not give a damn about handgun laws. You are just restricting law abiding citizens from protecting themselves and their life.

Thank You
Felix Andreoni

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: J. Marciano <jjm2000_1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: City Property Gun Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Comittee,

In a state where that requires a strong background check, training, fingerprinting and other hoops, to own a handgun what public safety benefit is derived from denying responsible gun owners from carrying on public property? Do you really think those for whom armed robbery is a career choice are going to obey such gun laws?

Connecticut has some of the toughest gun control in the nation and I've never seen any evidence it has reduced crime. It punishes legal gun owners while providing no real deterrent for the criminally inclined. Further, our difficult and expensive laws and procedures disproportionately affect People of Color who are more likely to struggle to afford the steep administrative costs to ownership while living in a neighborhood where self-defense may be more required.

Please do not impose more racist gun control on our beautiful cities. Thank you.

Kind regards,

John Marciano

Candela, Brian

From: Mike <minardo61@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:38 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Carrying firearms on Town property

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I'm writing this letter in disagreement with the Proposal to ban Firearms on Norwalk town property. As a waterfowl hunter, Norwalk is a wonderful place to access this recreation. I have hunted for many years at different locations. I have never once seen an unsafe act or a instance where a danger to the community was evident. I ask that the members of the Council please look at this issue from both sides with a clear and understanding mindset! Waterfowl hunting is far more then carrying a gun around and shooting. Its time for us to enjoy nature, The views of wildlife and mother nature but most importantly being able to be with friends and family for moments like this. This ordinance would greatly restrict any of these small pleasures that we hunters hold dear.

In Closing I must insist, law abiding hunters pose no threat to the public. Please reject this ordinance!
Thank you for your time and understanding.

Mike Minardo

Candela, Brian

From: John Rallo <rallojohn@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:51 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Town Property Gun Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela

I am a Connecticut pistol permit holder and an upstanding Connecticut resident who carries a firearm regularly for self-defense. Due to a legal physical disability, I have no means to defend myself, other than using a handgun, in the event of serious attack or assault. I have been fully trained, not only by obtaining my pistol permit, but also with subsequent instruction and routine practice at various pistol ranges.

Your proposed bill to limit firearm possession on public property places law abiding citizens such as me at a disadvantage. If this ordinance is approved, only the people who own firearms illegally will be carrying on town property. It is they alone who impose a threat to the public. In restricting the carry option for dutiful citizens, the risk of bodily harm to the honest, law abiding population increases greatly. In my particular case I will be unable to defend myself since one blow to my upper body, face, or neck could paralyze me for life.

Additionally, I am most concerned by your definition of public property. Does this include walking on a sidewalk? Does this include driving down the road? Does this include a municipal parking lot? This will all be an overstretch of Connecticut handgun law and in direct conflict of the second amendment rights which we Americans hold so dear.

If this bill is passed, once again, it is only the criminals that will be carrying firearms on Norwalk public property.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider passing this ordinance. Law abiding citizens have the right to defend themselves, no matter where they are.

Sincerely,

Dr. John P. Rallo

Candela, Brian

From: Sarah Williamson <williamson2413@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:13 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposal to be discussed at Tuesday's meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela,

I understand that the City of Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee is moving forward with its proposal on a firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities. Could you please address the questions below at the Common Council Ordinance Committee?

- Will this include sidewalks and streets? Does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property? Wouldn't that impact our ability to defend ourselves and also take away the right to carry - which has been approved by the State?
- Why is the committee targeting the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk? We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.
- Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Please offer **proof** that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety. Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?
- Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?
- Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs? Wouldn't it be better to direct that money elsewhere? Like schools?

I would appreciate these questions being addressed at the meeting. Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Sarah Williamson

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:50 PM
To: yaydrew@aol.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: No guns please!

Drew

Thank you so very much for your email. We will read it into the record.

Lisa Shanahan

From: yaydrew@aol.com <yaydrew@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: No guns please!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello, I barely know where to begin with this it seems so obvious that guns should not be in public places. I can't imagine a land where kids are building sand castles and flying kites, I'm strolling looking for shells or just enjoying the lullaby of waves and someone appears, not with a kite or beach chair but a gun. A trillion times no.

Thank you,

Drew Lamm
14 Milton Place
Norwalk, CT

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Candela, Brian

From: ERIC SANDERS <noserfreporter@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:14 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

My wife is a teacher and I am an employee of the court system. We have carry permits. I guess we shouldn't visit family in Norwalk, eat there or anything if this passes, correct? How is it worded?

Is there any notion that the people who commit murders don't have carry permits or any actual background check? Or is this just more of an attempt to bifurcate the country, starting at the local level, sending essentially anyone who cannot tolerate stupid, futile laws south of the Mason Dixon line or more likely, simply forcing them to break the law each and every day, and lose respect for it?

Eric M. Sanders

Candela, Brian

From: Ctfisherman22 <Ctfisherman22@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:15 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: ban on carrying firearms in norwalk

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian candela,

I am writing to you to voice my opinion that i disapprove of this new town ordinance. It is unconstitutional for the town to ban a right of the people. This makes law-abiding permit holders subject to arrest. This also doesnt allow sportsman who hunt to be able to do so. I hope you will take these points into consideration. Nothing good will come out of this new town ordinance. You will turn law abiding citizens into criminals and crime will likely rise in this GUN FREE ZONE.

Sincerely,
Brian mica

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Candela, Brian

From: "OK <gstrassdmd@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:49 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Senator Duff's proposed ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Brian: I am opposed to any ban on carrying a firearm in or on municipal facilities. Anyone who has a legal permit to carry has been tested and screened by local and state police, and should not be limited to exercise his right to do so whenever or wherever he or she might feel it best. A doctor who goes out at night to see an emergency patient in his private office might have to park on a city street or in a municipal lot to access his office. Why shouldn't he be able to carry for protection during his travels to and from his office on what may be dark or deserted areas, or even within his office if he feels it necessary to see someone he may or may not know? Don't intrude on the rights of law abiding citizens, and voters, who haven't done any wrong. Singling them out for a ban would be unneeded, arbitrary and capricious.

Dr. Gerald Strassberger,
Norwalk

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:53 PM
To: Justin Osserman
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Democrat against Firearm ban proposal

Thank you for your note. It will be read into the record.

From: Justin Osserman <justin.osserman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:03 PM
To: Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Democrat against Firearm ban proposal

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Ordinance Committee,

As a Democratic Norwalk resident and regular visitor of Oyster Park, I am not comfortable with the current proposal restricting firearms in town parks. I have never seen a police officer in Oyster Park, and my wife and I often walk our dogs at dusk and dawn. Taking away our right to carry in the park is a direct infringement on our 2nd amendment rights and I do not support this proposal.

I am unable to attend tomorrow's Zoom session and would like this email to serve as my expressed concern on the matter.

Thanks,
Justin

(347) 256 - 3311

Candela, Brian

From: Harding Dies <harding.dies@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:57 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Banning Firearms on Public Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Common Council Members:

As a citizen of Norwalk for the past 42 years, and a parent of three children, I strongly object to this proposed ordinance banning law-abiding citizens, who have undergone testing, training, several background checks, paid state and local fees to get a state license, and then again undergone a background check to actually take possession of a legal firearm, to now be PROHIBITED from using that license to exercise their Connecticut and United States Constitutional Right to Bear Arms. And the ordinance would prohibit the carrying on property, that by being public in nature, is property that THEIR TAXES PAID FOR! That is ludicrous.

As an NRA Certified Pistol and Rifle Instructor, I know these citizens are keenly interested in learning the proper and safe handling of firearms, especially handguns, so that they can take responsibility for their (and their family's) safety by exercising their God-given right to self-defense. They also all understand that the LAST thing they want to have to do is use the firearm, but they want that option. - and the excellent Norwalk Police Department's officers can't be everywhere. (Note: I was a witness to a shooting where a person was seriously wounded in the City, and I call 9-1-1 with the details and by the time the police arrived, another witness had loaded the victim into his car and driven him to the Norwalk Hospital ER!) An armed citizen might be on the scene to stop the incident - which happens up to an estimated 2.5 million times a year (USDOJ statistic).

Right now we can't have firearms or knives in City Hall, and we law-abiding citizens follow that rule. But every time I go there, and leave my firearm in a safe in my car (as now required by State Law) I feel less safe - because the 'guard' on the ground floor himself isn't armed, and should some criminal decide to stay armed and go to the 2nd floor to shoot at someone, we're all just sitting ducks for a mass shooting! And that's NOT for me. What you are proposing is to extend this 'free-fire zone' for criminals to every corner of the City. And criminals don't follow ordinances, or they wouldn't BE criminals. (Chicago is a good example of disarmed citizens and armed criminals - America's murder capital.)

And would your ordinance make my firearm in my car safe also a violation? Superseding State Law? Would EVERY piece of public property be subject to this - basically making it impossible for us to go ANYWHERE outside our homes? Would this apply to Public Housing (which I think might conflict with Federal Law)? And State Law?

And what is the impetus for this new ordinance? A series of criminal acts? A continuation of Connecticut State's purposeful lengthening of the timeline to get a permit through appointments and delays? The result of the recent National Election? Or to please a vocal minority?

There is a lot of uncertainty today and this is reflected in the increased interest in obtaining pistol permits. This ordinance might make some people happy to 'reduce gun violence' but that is smoke and mirrors because it has NEVER worked. Meanwhile, the majority of your citizens and constituents would Feel and Be LESS Safe. (And if you should pass it, who do you plan to tax to pay for all the signs you would have to post everywhere that is affected? Like speed signs, every change requires another sign.)

This Proposed Ordinance is a LEAP in the wrong direction. I urge you to vote it down!

Respectfully,

Harding M. Dies

Public Comment
Ordinance Committee Meeting
November 17, 2020
Part 2

Candela, Brian

From: Ludwig Salce <ludglo32@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:41 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Banning Firearms On City Owned Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

If this is passed in Norwalk, I will no longer longer shop at any of my favorite stores (Walmart, Best Buy, Marshals, etc.) located in this great Town. This law will not stop criminals from possessing firearms since they do not obey laws. Only honest law abiding individuals will be negatively affected. Thanks for letting me express my feelings.

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: D MASHECK <masheck1@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:41 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: 2nd Amendment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To Brian.

Good evening my name is Dwan to my understanding is that the city of Norwalk is trying to violate the constitution 2nd amendment laws with not allow a Legal firearm holder to carry there firearm on city grounds, parks, beaches, stores etc... thats not right! I am a tax payer & I resided in Norwalk for over 40 proudly to be treated as if I'm a criminal for being a legal firearm owner is completely wrong & and poses a negative look on our city.the law shouldn't be broken because individuals want to for the general purpose laws are made to be honored & respected so the 2nd Amendment need to be honored!!!

Candela, Brian

From: Michael O'Hara <oharamichael99@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:42 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Chapter 35 Banning Guns on town owned property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Going forth with this ordinance only hinders one's ability to safely abide by the law. How do we know exactly what is city owned? Are we really looking to make unnecessary criminals out of this scenario? In Connecticut there are already many laws against firearms that one must follow, and we follow them very well. Enacting this law would be a direct infringement on the peoples 2nd amendment right. Many people may not write about this issue, but I'm speaking for the thousands of people in Norwalk that chose to be able to defend themselves or others.

Candela, Brian

From: Robbins <billrobbinsland@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:31 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am against the proposed ordinance prohibiting possession of a licensed firearm on public property. How many criminal incidents in the last three years have there been involving a law abiding licensed gun owner on public property? How will this proposed law stand up in court and not be in violation of the 2nd amendment?

William Robbins

Candela, Brian

From: ron@riflehorse.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:53 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fire arms on public property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I willer on the side of the 2nd amendments . Since Town Property is the Peoples Property Public land. People who are Permitted to posses a fire arm be able to do so on public property.

Candela, Brian

From: jimshome1 <jimshome1@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms restrictions

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This is un necessary. There have been no issues with firearms in Norwalks properties in the past. Firearms owners are taxpayers and voters. We need to halt this senseless type of legislation.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy A10e, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Candela, Brian

From: tuna84@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:11 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Rilling, Harry
Subject: City gun ban

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Council,

In the middle of a pandemic with covid rising, high hospital rates and the death rate rising, The city of Norwalk and Bob Duff have nothing better to do then see how they can put restrictions on our second amendment rights. Bob Duff has been trying to ban hunting for a long time now. By banning firearms on city property you will take away the use of Veterans Park launch ramps to the duck hunters who launch there boats and go into long island sound where they do not bother anyone in the city of Norwalk. This is simply appalling that the city would even consider this not only because it restricts our second amendment rights but we are in the middle of a pandemic. What better place to be then out on your boat where you can be outdoors to social distance yourself from the world. It seems that the city does not care about this or they would not have even entertained this idea. How many issues have you had with firearms on city property verses issues off city property? How will banning firearms on city property make the town safer? How many criminals will abide by a ban on city property? The answers are No issues, will not make the city safer, the criminals will not follow a firearm ban. So why this ban? I urge you to please not take away this right to bear arms just because someone does not like hunting.

Thank you,

Paul Hiller
Norwalk resident, voter and tax payer

Candela, Brian

From: gregoryjmilleresq@me.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:18 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Local Company impacted by potential firearms ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Curious how this would work? I am counsel for a Federally licensed defense contractor in Norwalk. We supply equipment to the military. We have no civilian sales. Given the nature of our business key employees are by company policy required to be armed. They routinely have to park on City Property, drive on City roads, walk on City sidewalks, go in and out of city marinas... They are of course licensed by the State of CT to carry a firearm.

There is no possible way we could comply with such a law . And, I am quite certain that if this was passed we would find another community for our headquarters. Mayor Moccia put a lot of effort into attracting us to Norwalk, and Mayor Rilling has supported our business.

Beyond that as license holders commit no crimes, what does this law accomplish? And, it is a near certainty that it would lead to expensive litigation. Spend your time fighting criminals. This is not going to accomplish anything good for Norwalk.

Sincerely

Gregory J Miller Esq
Attorney at Law

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Candela, Brian

From: Kazuki Shimada <Kazuki.Shimada@tradition.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:22 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposal on a firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Sir,

As pistol permittee I'd like to ask you to respond to these question.

Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Sincerely,

Kazuki Shimada

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Candela, Brian

From: Dan Wayland <Dan.Wayland@tradition.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:23 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban

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Good morning Brian,

I just wanted to take a minute to ask what this public firearms ban is hoping to accomplish, and to ask if there was any particular incident of a law abiding citizen with a permit to carry a firearm hurting someone in a public place that may have caused what seems to be a misguided attempt at public safety. I would argue that beaches and parks with law abiding citizens carrying firearms would be safer than parks where only those that are willing to break the law are armed. I understand that legislature that is aimed at limiting firearms would hope to make us safer, but I would suggest digging deeper and finding a real problem to solve. Legally owned and carried firearms are not a major concern for the town of Norwalk, and I think that the data on this is clear.

Thanks for your time,

Dan Wayland

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Candela, Brian

From: Drew Turnbull <Drew.Turnbull@tradition.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: proposal on firearm bans

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Sir,

As pistol permittee I'd like to ask you to respond to these question.

Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Sincerely,

H. Drew Turnbull
77 highland ave
Rowayton,ct 06853

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Candela, Brian

From: Greg Helms <gregh@theallencompanies.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: tonight's common council meeting
Attachments: common council gun ban.docx

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr. Candela, I seek to make public comments at tonight's Common Council meeting, and I submit the attached statement in advance. However it's not clear to me how to register to do so. I'm very comfortable with Zoom, and I know how to join the meeting at the time, but the website instructs that I register in advance, yet it doesn't make clear how I am to do that.

Thank you.

Greg A. Helms
President
203.698.0005 ext 1



My name is Greg Helms, and I live at 11 Half Mile Road, in the Cranbury section.

First of all, I'm angry that such a weighty and subjective matter would be considered by our Council at a time when the public's participation is so muted. This smacks of opportunism. And you should be ashamed to even propose it right now. Certainly government shouldn't drag to a halt through all this, but to consider something so subjective as this is to take advantage of the public's inability to come together in any show of unity to signal our objection. Very convenient for you.

So as a law-abiding gun owner with a legal permit to carry a firearm to protect myself and potentially others around me, you would prohibit me from the use of City parks and beaches and other property. Are you going to proportionately reduce my property taxes as well since I won't be permitted to use them any longer? Or would you seek to have me just move out of the City I've lived in now for 35 years? And I can no longer even take my trash to the transfer station? And you don't want me to visit Lockwood Mansion anymore? Do you hear yourselves? What could possibly motivate you to prohibit law-abiding gun owners from all these locations? Sure, you'll say it's not that you want to prohibit us—just our guns—but in doing so you violate my constitutional right to carry it, and you obviously leave me unprotected. If you're going to do this, do you also plan to staff full-time, armed police at every one of these locations, or do you naively expect criminals to obey your new law here when you already know that—by definition—they're not inclined to obey current laws? Does our police chief guarantee they can do a better job of protecting me and my family from criminals than I can myself as a legally-armed citizen? I am trained better than some of our police, by the way. And how are such laws working in cities like Chicago? Do you seek for Norwalk to be like that, where the most vulnerable are victims of gun crime because liberal policies like these you now propose, prevent them from protecting themselves? Will you not ever learn that law-abiding gun owners are not the ones actually killing people with their guns?

So I watched the Council's meeting on October 20th. I understand—and fully respect—that private business owners may choose to prohibit gun carriers from their businesses. They post a sign as required by law, and I have the option whether to patronize that business or not. But we're talking about City-owned property here. Of which as a taxpaying citizen I AM an owner. You cannot equate the two. I can easily avoid Starbucks. And certainly my friends and I will never patronize Lockwood Mansion again. But shall I just dump my trash now on Crescent Street? I also heard Mr. Livingston's remark at that meeting, saying "I don't like the idea of somebody renting Gallagher Estate and having a big party with guns there." You are ignorant, Mr. Livingston. And you can all speak in platitudes about how you're not wanting to infringe on 2nd amendment rights, but you absolutely ARE infringing.

Every so often I have to go to the DMV here in Norwalk. Too often, I might say. When I was there last about a year ago, of course I had to leave my firearm at home because I'm not allowed to bring it there. Indeed I'm not even allowed to bring it ON THE PROPERTY, which means I can't just leave it in my vehicle before going in. I actually have to leave my house without it. But for maybe an hour I spent in lines that day, I watched their so-called "security guard" on duty. I could tell he liked his donuts, but he was also unarmed. And he was barely paying attention to anything but his phone, unless someone came up to him with a question. I watched him take a long cigarette break at one point across the parking lot. So I saw this as a microcosm of a much bigger problem. Political leadership seeks to disarm me, but then isn't willing or able to protect me otherwise. And you can't do it in Norwalk's City parks either. You conveniently ignore the risk that YOU KNOW is there, in which a criminal might bring a gun

to one of these locations without regard for your laws. Indeed this very recently DID happen at Colonial Village, where the Housing Authority's strict rules already DO prohibit guns from being on that property, yet someone was shot there in the parking lot. So there's just one example of failure, right there. You seek to expand that same policy across all City property, and just like at Colonial Village, the law-abiding will comply, and the criminals will not. You talk about hunters and people complaining about their lawful use of their guns. And you make idiotic statements about gun parties at Gallagher Estate. But I'm a legally-armed citizen who's licensed to carry in order to protect myself and my family and others. And for some reason you now want to make ME the criminal. That is all you will accomplish with this.

Your ignorance is astounding.

Thank you for your time.

Candela, Brian

From: Wayne Arcamone <wayne@arcamonesurveyors.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Banning our rights to bear arms
Attachments: Wayne Arcamone.vcf

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I urge all to abandon this ordinance to ban the law abiding citizens of Norwalk the right to bear arms in such an EXTREME measure.

This is not curing a problem but creating a VERY LARGE PROBLEM.

Best regards,

Wayne

Wayne Arcamone

Arcamone Land Surveyors, LLC

(203) 866-2058 Work

wayne@arcamonesurveyors.com

4 Taft Street

Unit A-2B

Norwalk, CT 06854

Candela, Brian

From: Chas <chashcc@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:29 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: In opposition to the proposed Firearm Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr Candela

I am writing to state my strong opposition to the proposed Firearm Ban on Norwalk City property. Firearm ownership is a God given right in our country and those who live in and travel through Norwalk are guaranteed this right.

Hunters, Recreational Shooters and those carrying Firearms for the legal Defense of themselves and their loved ones are entitled to this right.

Norwalk will be at serious risk of legal action as various groups around the state (and nationally) are prepared to bring suit against this serious infringement of their rights under both the State of CT, and the US Constitution.

I urge you to withdraw this proposal ASAP.

Thank you,

Chas Catania

Note: No trees were killed in the sending of this message, but a large number of electrons were terribly inconvenienced.

Candela, Brian

From: Gloria Batty <battyfam3@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:33 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: RE: The proposed carrying firearms ban on Town Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom this may concern, as a women who carries (CCW permit holder). I would like to give my opinion. This ban would infringe on my 2A amendment rights and my safety I am not a criminal and don't want to be treated like one.
so to get my point across " SAY NO TO THE BAN "

Thank You
Gloria C. Batty

Candela, Brian

From: Todd Dillon <mrduckdiggler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Absolutely against the Ban on Carrying Firearms on Norwalk Town Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good day Mr. Candela,

I am writing you to express my objection with the proposed ban on the carrying of firearms on Norwalk town properties.

I visit Norwalk many times a year on business and for recreation with friends and family. I enjoy the shoreline and local businesses while I am there. I shop, dine and even buy some fuel. I like the town.

With that said, if the town decides that my God given right to defend my family, friends and myself while I am in Norwalk no longer applies then I will no longer spend time in Norwalk. I will find another shoreline community that respects my Constitutional rights to spend my time and money in.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Todd Dillon

Candela, Brian

From: Garrett V. Friedrichsen <friedrichsen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:38 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms comment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good morning,

Please accept my thoughts on the pending local rules which would ban firearms from town owned property.

Without proof that there has been a problem on town owned property in any statistical increase over private property I believe these rule(s) are not necessary.

While the proposers have intentions and safety is priority one for all citizens, I am not aware of any issues specifically tied to firearms on city property that would trigger such a punitive rule.

Further, where would it stop? What about city housing? Surely there are law abiding fully licensed firearm owners that live in city housing, no? Sidewalks, etc...

Also, what about the public kayak launch at Calf Pasture, is the city going to prevent me from launching my kayak to hunt ducks in the allowed areas outside of the beach?

A rule like this is just not necessary and creates undue burdens on citizens and those that would have to enforce the rule, the police.

Thank you,

Garrett Friedrichsen
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Chazz Batty <masttiff22003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: RE: The proposed fire arms carry ban on Town property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

TO Whom this May Concern,

As a member of the working class, I have worked and have a (CCW permit) for more then 10 years. I have never committed any crime greater the speeding ticket some 35 years ago. I have a right and the second admendment (2A) protects that right to protect myself and family. Also as a hunter this proposed ban would impact my sport. "SAY NO TO THE BAN".

Sincerely
Charles Batty

Candela, Brian

From: scott Bray <scottcbray@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban on norwalk public property

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My name is Scott.. im contacting you to ask you to vote against the proposed firearms ban in Norwalk.. i have a pistol permit, and am a law abiding citizen of Ct for 51 years.. while i dont live in norwalk, im often in norwalk, and used to work in norwalk..i pose no threat to anybody who does not pose a threat to me..making me a criminal for having my pistol in my posession while on Norwalk property is (as i see it) a violation of the state pistol permit..after all, i completed the process of learning, acquiring, and paying for a ct pistol permit, and Norwalk is part of connecticut.. please dont punish me.. just lock up the guys who do commit crimes, and did not go through the strenuous process of obtaining a permit to protect myself and my loved ones.. thank you, Scott B

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: David Alfano <David@AlfanoCPA.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: [BULK] Norwalk Ordinance Committee wants to ban firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

Importance: Low

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Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Sincerely,

David Alfano CPA, PFS, CGMA



**ALFANO
& COMPANY LLC**
www.alfanocpa.com

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OLD GREENWICH, CT 06870
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Candela, Brian

From: Ernie Tartaglione <e925@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Questions About Firearm Proposal

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Brian,

I have been made aware that the City Council of Norwalk is proposing some very restrictive firearm mandates. A few questions I have:

1. Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk and Connecticut in general? All permit holders have been approved to carry a licensed firearm with them, every last one has gone through background checks, safety classes to prove they are well versed in handling a firearm, they have paid fees to City and State in order to obtain said firearms and this restriction denies every permit holder to defend themselves when in public. Are streets and sidewalks considered in the ban, those are both city property, no?
2. Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal? If there is a yes answer to any of those question please elaborate further.
3. What is considered city owned property, streets and sidewalks? Parks? Please define...
4. Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?
5. Why does the City Council want two waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Lastly, please tell me how this will keep us safe, as well as others who don't carry more safe, do you guys plan on defunding the police next, making our towns less safe?

Thanks,
Ernie Tartaglione
Law Abiding Citizen

Candela, Brian

From: Tom Miller <muzzleloader38@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fwd: Stop Norwalk from banning Firearms

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian Candela : I have to stick my two cents in the decision to ban guns in Norwalk . The only people that would effect are the ones who have proven their responsibility with safe handling of firearms and clean criminal records. The people who break the law already have no respect for it in the first place so how can anyone except them to change because another senseless law is enacted ? All this would do is make it less stressful for the bad guys who know their targets are probably defenseless now !

Tom Miller

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Stop Norwalk from banning Firearms
From: Jude Collins <jude@collinsmail.me>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020, 5:57 PM
To: muzzleloader38@gmail.com
CC:

[View in Browser](#)

Norwalk wants to ban Firearms on City property

We are asking friends to Submit your comments via email by 3:00 PM on Tuesday, November 17th to Brian Candela at bcandela@norwalkct.org

Norwalk Ordinance Committee wants to ban firearms ban on city owned, property

and facilities. If you have time to reach out with a short email, it would be greatly appreciated.

>

> The City of Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee is moving forward with their proposal on a firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities. This includes parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots. It is unclear if this will include sidewalks and streets. But one thing is clear, this proposal will impact your right to defend yourself, and will also impact hunters.

>

> The Common Council Ordinance Committee meeting is this Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM. This proposal is on the agenda. All Second Amendment supporters and sportsmen need to provide public comment. If you don't speak up, the other side wins.

>

> We are asking friends to Submit your comments via email by 3:00 PM on Tuesday, November 17th to Brian Candela at bcandela@norwalkct.org

>

> Questions you can ask in the meeting or in your email:

> Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Connecticut?

>

> We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the local chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by our municipality and the state.

>

> Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety – or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

>

> Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

>

> Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

>

> Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association
PO Box 754

North Haven, CT 06473

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Candela, Brian

From: Mike P <mpantano7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:12 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am writing in regards to the proposed ban on the carrying of firearms on town property. I work in Norwalk and truly care about the future of this great town. The proposed ordinance is an example of increasing government over reach, which is not only unconstitutional, but counterproductive to the ultimate goal of making Norwalk and our state a safe place for our children to live. Please reconsider this mis-guided legislation. Thank you!

Mike Pantano
8 Pine Tree Hill Rd
Newtown, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Donald Kulowski, Jr. <djr8x6@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela,

I have been listening to different gun proposals for a long time. Each one proposed to stop gun violence. The truth is that the crimes that these proposals are trying to stop are not committed by the the person with a carry permit who is carry a gun for self protection or the hunter but by the criminal. And as long as that problem is not addressed the only thing you accomplish is to take away the rights of the law abiding citizen thus making him less safe.

Very truly yours,
Donald J Kulowski

Candela, Brian

From: Nick Zito <nicholast.zito@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Ordinance commission meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom it may concern,

It has been brought to my attention that the council is proposing a ban on firearms on all city owned, leased property and facilities.

I have been an avid waterfowl hunter for 10 years and have personal connections to waterfowl hunters such as Charles 'Shang' Wheeler, the man behind which the Wheeler Wildlife Management Area is named.

I have been reading historical books on waterfowl hunting and it's rich tradition, as well as its contribution to wildlife conservation.

After hearing about this proposal, I would like to know in what reasonable sense does the Commission have to limit access to waterfowl hunting that has been utilized for more than 200 years? Some of the areas that could be effected are owned by the USFWS, and a specific set of permit rules applies to such areas. If the Norwalk public boat launch falls under the reach of this proposed ban, sportsmen and sportswomen will be harmed, and as such so will conservation efforts and funding (via the Pittman Robinson Act).

I strongly urge the commission to vote down this proposal.

Regards,

Nicholas T. Zito
115 Sperry Road
Woodbridge, CT

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Quentesa Pierce <qlpierce@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposal to Ban Carrying Firearms on City Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Greetings Committee,

The proposal to ban the carrying of fireArms on all city owned, leased property and facilities, places a restriction on the right to bear Arms by those of us who have invested in and abided by the rules governing the right to exercise the Second Amendment.

I'd like to point out the obvious that those who have obtained their pistol permit have had a background check conducted and their information is stored in a legal database. Thus, they are traceable. So, why place restrictions on those who have and are following legal protocol?

This proposal evokes more questions than it presumes to answer.

What are the true intentions of this ban?

Do taxpayers not share ownership of city owned and leased property?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Does this proposed ban include sidewalks and streets?

What isn't included in this proposed ban?

Why are you proposing an ordinance to make permit holders felons (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-37), if they carry on city owned property?

Has there been any incidents for the need of this proposal?

The words chosen to describe the 2nd Amendment are intentional: ..."the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Is a fireArm not the extension of one's limbs? Does "to keep and bear" not include to carry in and on? Does "shall not be infringed" suggest restrictions and limitations?

We need answers.

Respectfully,

A Law Abiding Citizen

Candela, Brian

From: J Johnston <jimmystjames@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am writing as a concerned citizen and lawful gun owner in the state of Connecticut. It has come to my attention that there is a proposed ban on firearms on city owned property in the town of Norwalk. My concern is as a licensed and responsible owner of firearms who carries regularly for my own protection and peace of mind, what good does it do to ban law abiding citizens from exercising their 2nd amendment rights? Do you honestly think that anyone who is carrying an illegal firearm is going to care about your silly misguided legislative action? They're already breaking the law. And please don't tell me that you aren't already aware of this. All that I can say is if Norwalk moves forward with this legislation I am not going to stop carrying my firearms. I am rather going to cease patronizing businesses and municipalities in and around the Norwalk area. I won't be spending any of my hard earned dollars in your city and will seek to do so in parts of CT who still value The Constitution of the United States of America!

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Mike Ponzio <ponzio22@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee proposal to ban firearms

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Why is the committee targeting it's law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

I am not a random person. I am an individual that has been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do you offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are you limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

--

M. Ponzio

Candela, Brian

From: Donna <dsmirniotopoulos@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa; Livingston, Thomas P.; Keegan, Tom; Candela, Brian; Dominique Johnson
Cc: Common Council
Subject: Proposed changes to Chapter 38.4 of the City Code

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Common Council Ordinance Committee,

I am writing today to ask that you table your vote on expanding section 38 of the City code to include a ban on hunting in City owned parks and a prohibition on firearms on all city property for the following reasons:

1. The language is vague.
2. The city owns a lot of property. Citizens are often unaware that they are on city property inside parking garages (Maritime and Yankee Doodle) and in parking lots.
3. Are sidewalks and streets included in this ban?
4. Prohibiting legally registered and permitted gun owners from transporting while on city property may be a violation of the Constitutional guarantees of the Second Amendment.
5. Without carefully wording this ordinance and vetting the constitutionality, the City will be setting itself up for lawsuits. The City currently spends millions of dollars every year on legal fees due to lawsuits either generated by the Law Department or brought against the city by aggrieved persons and entities.
6. Violation of the ordinance is a criminal act, which could result in loss of a gun permit.
7. The potential for non-objective persons to abuse this ordinance to revoke permits from legal gun owners exists and cannot be prevented. In other words, you would be codifying an ordinance with the potential to create retaliatory benefits to serve a political agenda or satisfy a personal grudge.
8. A person's chances of becoming a victim of violent crime are one in 10,000 in Weston. In Norwalk the chances are one in 353.

As a single woman who walks alone in South Norwalk and East Norwalk, revoking my right to carry a legally registered firearm potentially endangers me. The streets, sidewalks and parks I access are almost all city-owned property. Police carry firearms to defend themselves as much as to defend others. Members of the Ordinance Committee should know that depriving law-abiding citizens of their right to defend themselves jeopardizes our public safety.

I urge you to table the proposed amendments to Chapter 38 pending further review. The language must be thoroughly vetted and the case law reviewed. Attorney Candela made reference to a similar ordinance in Weston during your October meeting. Weston is not Norwalk. A comparison with Weston is not meaningful given the extremely low crime statistics for Weston.

Respectfully,
Donna Smirniotopoulos

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Candela, Brian

From: Joseph Blazovic <joeblaz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Weapons ban on Norwalk property

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To whom it may concern...

Please let this email serve that I am adamantly against this proposal and should be voted down.

I am a CC permit holder in good standing, residing in Norwalk for the past 20 years.

Sincerely,

Joe Blazovic

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: James Kenny <jpk0090@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: No to firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

No to any firearms ban. Enough all ready.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Candela, Brian

From: Nick Vitale <nickvitale@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:30 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms Ban On Norwalk City Property

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Dear Brian,

I realized the positive intentions of the Ordinance Committee, however this proposed ban will only hurt law-abiding citizens. Those who have no regard for the law or the signs the city will post will still be armed and dangerous. Illegal guns will be the only ones on Norwalk City properties.

As a veteran and law-abiding citizen, please, please do what you can to discourage this proposal.

Thank you,
Nick Vitale

Candela, Brian

From: Felix Dostmann <fdostmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

Please find this message as a strong opposition to proposed ban on firearms in municipal property. As an avid waterfowl hunter as well as second amendment supporter, our rights would be stripped away with this ban. The ban would accomplish nothing than restrict the lifestyle and family values of many law abiding citizens. My opposition is simple, it does not benefit anyone it only takes away from those who it matters to most.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,
Felix Dostmann

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Timur Sakayev <timur@sakayev.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Candela, Brian

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Mr Candela,

I'd like to express my strong disagreement with the changes to ordinances that are currently under discussion by Ordinance Committee related to banning of firearms from city-owned properties. I believe such a proposal is a misguided attempt at "security theater" - a "feels good"-based decision making that will not make the city any safer, but will away law-abiding citizens' rights. I believe it is imperative that City Council makes decisions not on "feels good" mentality, but thinks through the decision logically and recognizes that the current logic of the proposal effectively presumes criminal intent on part of law-abiding citizens, while doing exactly nothing to prevent true criminals from committing crimes.

Thank you,

TS

Candela, Brian

From: Bruce Wernert <bruce@wernert.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:51 AM
To: Candela, Brian

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This proposal is not good for law abiding citizens. The bad guys will have guns wherever they want so you're punishing us the law abiding citizens.
This didn't work in DC and it won't work in Norwalk either.

Best,
Bruce
Bruce@Wernert.com
203-524-5737

"Obstacles are what you see when you take your eye off the goal" Vince Lombardi

Candela, Brian

From: David Bass <dibconsultinginc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Gun Ban on public property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This ordinance will impede the safety of the legally armed citizen. I also feel that it will open the floodgates to additional infringement on my 2nd amendment rights.

--

David I Bass
President
DIB Consulting Inc.
43 Crescent Street, Suite 10
Stamford, CT 06906-1894

Tel: 203-975-2982
Fax: 203-975-2983
Cell: 203-948-2349

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Candela, Brian

From: Kip Allardt <kallardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

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Dear City of Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee,

What are you trying to accomplish with this ordinance? If it's a safer city, what and where is the evidence that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Perhaps focusing your time and other constrained resources on policing your existing laws would yield a better city than making new ones that are not based on evidence that they solve the issue.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kip Allardt

Candela, Brian

From: robert dustin <drdustinbob@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:01 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Candela, Brian
Subject: Pistol ordinance is a misguided creation of Gun Free Zones for easy attack.

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Dear Mr. Candela,

From my reading of this evenings proposal regarding the restriction of lawful gun owners right to bear arms on Norwalk public beaches, buildings, and parking lots would seem to create a plethora of "Gun Free Zones" in Norwalk.

It seems to me that a terrorist or crazy person wishing to cause trouble by attacking citizens would seek out these advertised areas of unarmed targets.

You already have unlicensed criminals carrying firearms in these places. If they decide to draw their weapons, it would be nice to have some law abiding concealed carriers armed and ready to dissuade them until the police arrive.

I don't know who suggested making Norwalk's public areas into defenseless targets in such a manner, but they clearly don't understand that law abiding citizens are going to have to take up the slack with deterring crime as the police are becoming too frightened of lawsuits and firings to act in a definitive manner.

Any public official or town employee suggesting the creation and promotion of gun free zones will bear the responsibility for drawing bad actors to these areas.

Since the proposed ordinance is an obvious infringement of our Constitutional 2nd amendment, I believe the town of Norwalk will be wasting a lot of taxpayer dollars on legal challenges to this ordinance if it passes.

Robert Dustin
Frequent Norwalk Shopper

Candela, Brian

From: Michael Duben <endomd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon,

The proposed ban on firearms ban on city-owned property and facilities, including parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots, is unconstitutional and counterproductive. It targets law-abiding gun owners who virtually never commit violent crimes. It will do nothing to reduce the crime rate - criminals by definition don't follow gun restrictions. I voice my strong opposition to the proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Duben

--
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Candela, Brian

From: Michael <michaellevin1@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela,

I am waiting to you to express my concerns with the proposed City of Norwalk ordinance banning firearms on city property.

As a resident of neighboring town I spend significant amount of time in Norwalk and this ordinance would greatly impact my ability to exercise my 2A rights and protect myself. Furthermore it also puts me in danger of becoming an "accidental criminal" as it is easy to imagine that such an ordinance would create a confusing patchwork of zones where carrying or even properly storing firearm in a vehicle would be prohibited.

CT has one of the strictest gun ownership rules in the nation, to own a firearm in CT one must undergo background checks, take safety courses and register firearms with the state. It is ironic that this ordinance would prohibit most vetted group of people from exercising their right to self defense while doing nothing to prevent criminals from carrying guns. A person bent on committing crime will not be deterred by another ordinance, in fact criminals could be reassured that in those areas they will be unopposed by an armed citizen. One can look at the sad story of Chicago where severe restrictions do nothing to ameliorate gun related violence. Why are we not learning from that experience?

Had there been any incident necessitating such a measure? It seems that it is another "feel-good" measure not based on any reason or facts. This measure wastes taxpayer money, does nothing to improve public safety, targets law-abiding citizens, needlessly puts lives in danger and does not deter if not encourages criminals .

Sincerely,

Michael Levin, MD
74 Clapboard Hill Rd
New Canaan, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:40 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Gun Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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From: Kevin Tepas <kmtepas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Lisa Tomlinson Shanahan <lisashan@gmail.com>; Lisa Tomlinson Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Cc: Galen Wells <galenwells@gmail.com>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

Dear Ms. Shanahan: Please let me add my strong support to the proposed gun ordinance. I am aware that it is not a panacea for the regrettable problem of unnecessary firearms but it at least 1) it makes a statement that guns have no place in a public gathering, 2) it gives law enforcement another tool to use and 3) it makes me feel safer that firearms will not be discharged purposely or accidentally at a public gathering that I and my family might well be attending. This ordinance will not solve the problem in and of itself but it is an important step in that most-appropriate direction.

I am aware that enforcement might present some challenges and I have heard comment that the ordinance will not deter "sick" or "bad" people. While this may be arguable, I most fervently hope that there is some restriction elsewhere that prevents such individuals from possessing a gun in the first place.

Finally, the passage of an ordinance is an expression of the will of the people. Please let my support for this ordinance be an expression of the will of this citizen.

Respectfully,

Kevin Tepas
7 Barnfield Rd
Norwalk CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Robert Nalewajek <nalew@netzero.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:41 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Changes to Chapter 38, Article 1, § 38

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela,

I am writing in opposition to proposed changes to Chapter 38, Article 1, § 38. Specifically, the firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities, including parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots.

This proposal represents an undue infringement (if not outright violation) of a civil right and, as such, is egregious in its own right. In addition, as a civil rights violation, it can/will give rise to an action for injury resulting in legal costs.

Respectfully your,

Robert Nalewajek

Candela, Brian

From: George Kollitides <GeorgeK@acapallc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Cc: CCRRC Secretary
Subject: New Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Committee and Mr. Candela,

I have been made aware of Norwalk's proposal to ban firearms on City owned property. As I'm sure you aware, and it should be painfully obvious, this will only effect LEGAL gun owners, as anyone illegally in possession of a fire arm, by virtue of that act, is already a law breaker and facing stiff penalties. Therefore, why would this law curb their criminal behavior when others do not? As such, this additional measure will not prevent criminals in the furtherance of their crimes and therefor will not create any additional protections for the population at large. In fact, it will prevent legal gun owners from potentially protecting themselves and others and at a minimum restrict their god given, constitutional right to bear arms. You may not be aware, but should know, that as a class, Americans who possess concealed carry permits ("CCW"), commit crimes at a LOWER rate than police! I am a strong supporter of crime prevention, of safely in our communicates and of our law enforcement personnel. This new ordinance does not accomplish that. While I'm sure this is a well-intended attempt to further protect our citizens, upon reflection, you certainly have to agree that it simply can't accomplish that, but it will surely embolden criminals to act more aggressively.

Please enlighten me; how often, and in what context, have legal gun owners committed a crime on city or municipal property? Please compare that to gun crimes committed by illegal gun possessors. I think you will find the statics overwhelming say that we need to enforce the laws against law breakers, not law abiders. I look forward to seeing the statics that Norwalk tracks on this subject, so that I can see our officials are fact based decision makers, as they were elected to be, not simply reacting emotionally.

Sincere Regards,

George Kollitides
A Concerned Citizen

Candela, Brian

From: scott Bray <scottcbray@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk gun ban on city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To add to my earlier email, i think i speak for all responsible, permitted gun owners when i say that anyone in possession of a firearm who has not completed and paid for the permit and who may be a non-law abiding citizen should receive maximum punishment as written under current gun laws for many years... thats why the world is pissed off! The good guys(almost everyone) are punished for following the rules, and the bad guys are patted on the back and cheered for and awarded when they break the law.. please, use this opportunity to show good people that by remaining good and following rules, guidelines, etc..that they can continue to live a happy, normal, free, good life.. please dont punish us good guys!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Will T <wcolda@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian,

This proposed ban serves no purpose other than to remove an individual's Constitutional right to protect themselves and their family, gives more power to those who abuse those same rights, and moves Norwalk into the very realm of lawlessness you believe you will safeguard its citizens from by passing this proposal. CT has already moved to restrict police with the CT Police Accountability bill. Why is Norwalk looking to restrict its citizens with a ban that in effect is the same thing? Instead of harassing law-abiding citizens with a tired argument, why doesn't Norwalk focusing on making the streets safe by levying crippling fees for distracted driving, or taking away a license for driving under the influence?

It's the 21st century. Let's move ahead collectively instead of alienating responsible citizens and rewarding criminals.

William Taylor
Fairfield

Candela, Brian

From: Marshall Hallenbeck <marshall.hallenbeck@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:57 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk Firearm Ban Proposal

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian,

I have been a resident of Norwalk for almost 7 years now and it has come to my attention that there is a proposal about carrying firearms on city owned parks, beaches, and other recreational properties.

I'm curious for what reason this is being proposed? From my point of view it is an ordinance being proposed with no impetus.

I have a conceal carry permit myself and have taken walks on public property that this ordinance would outlaw, which is concerning. I didn't carry because I'm a malicious person, I just happen to want to take a walk in a park and carry regularly as protection.

As a Norwalk resident I ask that you not approve this, and furthermore would like to understand the rationale for suggesting such a ban in the first place.

Thanks

--
Marshall Hallenbeck

Candela, Brian

From: William Valenti <balenti@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I would like you to reconsider the firearms ban on city owned property in Norwalk. I am not a second amendment yahoo. Owning a firearm is a privilege and not a God given right.

I'm a jeweler who carries a firearm in conjunction with work. I often find myself parking my car in municipal lots. Also, aren't city streets city property as well.

I don't believe someone with nefarious intent will care about the ordinance.

Please, don't pass another broad sweeping sloppy ordinance that only infringes on the privileges honest people that have earned the privilege.

Thanks for your time,

William Valenti

Candela, Brian

From: Carlos Vado <charlie.vado@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Ordinance Committee weapons ban.

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr. Candela

As a lifelong Norwalk citizen and Connecticut Pistol Permit Holder for 22 years, I am writing this email in my concern about the Proposed weapons ban in Norwalk on public property. Can the committee give a specific incident or reason that its most law-abiding are being targeted ? We have been given permission by the Norwalk Chief of Police and passed multiple background checks in order to apply and receive one's license. Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing the firearm in their vehicle on town property? What is the reason for limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting? Why does the Ordinance committee want to waste taxpayers money on a proposal that is a infringement on my 2nd amendment right and contradicts the efforts made and given by the Norwalk police and Connecticut state police? I am a proud Norwalk Citizen, a Father and a Husband and an active member in my Church. I do not feel that any proposal limiting my ability to exercise my 2nd amendment right is to anyone's benefit. Taxpayers money can be better used then wasting time and funds on signs that state no weapons allowed, criminals do not bother reading signs ! Even if they did, I am very Doubtful they will oblige to follow it, as is the nature of a criminal to not follow the laws of the land.

--
Carlos Vado
8 West End Rd
Norwalk, Ct 06850
203-957-1399

Candela, Brian

From: William Doyle <wldoyle13@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Mr. Candela, if city of Norwalk passes this firearms ban I would I would no longer shop or eat in Norwalk. I am a law bidding citizen and if I choose to carry a firearm my right should not be curtailed by the city of Norwalk. Thank you for your help in this matter. W.Doyle

Candela, Brian

From: John Packes <pax@lifeinmobile.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr. Candela –

I want to reach out to urge you to reject any of the proposed firearm bans to be discussed tonight. As you know, firearms owners are subject to scrutiny to not only receive a CC Permit, but also each time a firearm is purchased. We are among the most law-abiding citizens as statistical evidence clearly shows. Further, there is no evidence that any of the bans proposed will reduce crime; conversely, they will instead create criminals out of law-abiding citizens.

Please oppose any additional proposed restrictions.

Thank you in advance.

-John Packes
Norwalk Resident since 2016

Candela, Brian

From: thomas graham <tgram4@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Upcoming Norwalk Vote

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I have a few questions regarding the Norwalk committee's upcoming vote to ban firearms on city owned property and facilities. Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

Norwalk permittees are not "random people", they are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Please help me understand the committee's motives behind this proposal. Should the proposal pass I will choose not to shop or dine in Norwalk going forward.

Regards,
Tom Graham

Fairfield County, CT resident

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: CHARLES BAUGH <leadfoot64@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:35 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ordinance on city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr Candela,

I just received word that you are proposing an ordinance that would ban carry of firearms on city property in norwalk. I am not a resident of norwalk, but frequent many businesses and events in norwalk, and I almost always have a firearm on my person while doing so. Your proposed ordinance will not have ANY meaningful effect on the safety of residents and visitors and will ONLY serve to further restrict the rights of lawful gun owners who choose to carry a firearm to protect ourselves and others. Your ordinance will also serve to embolden criminals and make the streets LESS SAFE because criminals will know that their potential victims are less likely to be able to protect themselves. I respectfully demand that you NOT propose or vote for any ordinances or legislation that serves to restrict or abolish the rights of lawful firearm owners. I also ask that you encourage peers and colleagues to do the same. Instead of attempting to "crack down" on firearms, your efforts would be better invested in fighting for more community policing and toughening laws and punishments against criminals who actually do harm.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Baugh
203-556-7460

Candela, Brian

From: MIGUEL MENDEZ <mywayautobodym@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:44 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm laws

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom this may concern. Not allowing citizens with pistol permits to carry is unconstitutional. It is our right to carry and be able to defend ourselves if needed. I pay taxes and live in the city of Norwalk. I will find my self moving out of Norwalk if this stupidity and unlawfulness for some reason passes. I am reaching out to all my friends and loved ones who live in Norwalk to address this matter. The Constitution was made not to be broken.

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Chefjlevy87@att.net
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

I am writing today to OPPOSE the ordinance against carrying firearms on public property. I a law abiding citizen who has a clean record. Hardly a parking ticket in the last decade. Why would I be limited to use my constitutional rights on the people's property? "Common sense" does not include punishing good people who commit no crime. I spend a good amount of time and money in town, as it is a favorite day trip for my family and my self. These regular trips and the dollars we spend in town will be under serious reconsideration if you move forward with limiting my ability to keep my family safe.

Thank you,
Jason Levy

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Anthony D. Flamini <anthonyflamini@frontier.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Gun ban proposal

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Sir,

As a licensed concealed carry permit resident of the State of Connecticut, I am writing you to express my DISAPPROVAL of your proposal to ban LEGAL firearms on public property. Once again, targeting and punishing legal and lawful firearms owners. This is an ASSAULT on the Second Amendment. Focus your energy on criminals and protecting the rights of Legal, Lawful, citizens.

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Mark Masone <mmmaaaaaak@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:43 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposal to ban firearms on city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To the members of the Ordinance Committee,

My name is Mark Masone. I have been a Norwalk resident for almost the entirety of my 36 years of life. I often spend many hours as the sole employee on duty at my job. Many people like me do not have the luxury of being guarded by security personnel. We are responsible for our own protection. Having a pistol, which I am licensed to carry and always do concealed, gives me another option for defending myself. The only two locations where I want my pistol to be are either on my person or in my safe at home. No law or ordinance should prevent myself or anyone else from conducting our daily business in the City of Norwalk, while exercising our constitutional right to to bear arms, without due process of law. It is clear that the restrictions proposed in this ordinance are arbitrary and based solely on a fear of lawful gun owners. An ordinance like this is only a stepping-stone to further curtailment of our rights. Please do not treat myself and other law-abiding citizens as felons.

Thank you all.

Candela, Brian

From: guthrie dinda <busybeewood@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: banning firearms on town property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Why would the town of Norwalk prefer to spend tax payer dollars on signage to outlaw a lawful act? Signage does not prevent criminals from committing crimes. Has there been an incident to cause the need for this ordinance? An ordinance like this is repugnant to the Constitution and all responsible gun owners. -Guthrie

Candela, Brian

From: rjb989@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.; Candela, Brian
Subject: Chapter 38 Explosives

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ordinance Committee Members,

I urge you to drop the proposal to ban guns on City of Norwalk property and leave the ordinance as it is currently written in the City Code. There are two separate issues to be addressed.

1. Hunting: You don't have any authority to regulate hunting below the mean high tide mark, that power comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. As a former Councilman, I've chaired both the Ordinance and Health Welfare & Safety committees and this issue has come up a few times in previous years. It has been suggested by those opposed to waterfowl hunting off Calf Pasture and Veterans Park that the City could circumvent the DEEP by banning the carrying of shotguns through those parks. After researching the issue during their respective terms, both former Corporation Counsels Donald Reid and Robert Maslan concluded that the City could not ban the weapons from those parks during hunting season if that was the access to the shore and hunting areas.

Further, your proposed ordinance includes a reference to a 250 foot radius from the high tide mark which is confusing as written. State regulations allow a hunter to be just below the mark off public land provided there are no structures within 250 feet that have people, livestock or explosives so that would automatically disallow hunting at the shore in residential neighborhoods. It appears you are proposing that one has to be 250 feet away from the shore of public land.

The Common Council only has the authority to pass local ordinances that the State of Connecticut enables you to enact, and blocking access to a legal hunting area by banning the transport of weapons through a City park is not one of them.

2. Carrying Firearms: The proposed ordinance attempts to ban the carry or possession of a firearm on any City owned property which is much different than what was reported in the local press. Chairperson Shanahan was quoted that it only applied to parks and buildings, however this is cleverly written to make anyone a lawbreaker who pulls out of their driveway onto a public street with their firearm even if they have a valid pistol carry permit.

As a holder of a permit, I question the motivation behind this proposed ordinance. What problems have we had with legal hunters and permit holders? Do you really think taking away the rights of law abiding citizens will make Norwalk safer? If you are hoping that this will change the behavior of a criminal with a weapon you need a reality check.

Remember, City property is all our property including law abiding citizens. Please reject this proposed ordinance.

Thank You,

Richard Bonenfant
203-838-7751 Home
203-858-1452 Cell Phone

Candela, Brian

From: John Meskunas <jmeskunas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:17 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: carrying on norwalk town property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please reject the proposal to ban the carrying of firearms on town property. The state already has a list of places banned for carry. It seems that making specific no go places in norwalk serves to only make it more complicated and confusing for law abiding citizens. People with Concealed carry licenses are the most law abiding group of citizens in the USA. to be certified in Connecticut we undergo an FBI background check showing we have never committed any crimes. In fact studies show that CC licensed people actually get convicted of felonies at rates less than police officers. In Addition CDC studies indicate that upwards of 2 million defensive gun uses annually help protect Americas innocent citizens. As with most anti gun laws this serves to only disarm the law abiding as criminals by definition DONT follow laws. Not to mention the (desired im sure) effect of making hunting less accessible to the public.

Thank you for your consideration,
John Meskunas

--

John Meskunas



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Candela, Brian

From: Megan McNeill <mcneim2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Sacchinelli, Nicholas; Common Council; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Dominique Johnson; Livingston, Thomas P.; Shanahan, Lisa; Candela, Brian; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Kydes, John; Theodoridis, George
Subject: Section 38 ordinance amendment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Common Council Ordinance Committee,

I am writing today to voice my opinion on the proposed amendments to section 38 of the city code.

According to the meeting minutes of the recent ordinance committee meetings - there are not citizen complaints or recorded incidents with legally permitted persons carrying legally registered firearms onto city property. This ordinance amendment does not have a problem to solve. It is virtue signaling at best and an unconstitutional "gun grab" at worst.

This ordinance amendment will keep firearms out of the parks about as well as the no dogs allowed signs keep dogs out of veterans park.

This ordinance amendment undermines any faith we have in the permitting process. Anyone legally carrying a firearm in Norwalk has been vetted by the state, the city and our own police chief!

This ordinance amendment has extremely broad language. It has the potential to require all outdoor spaces to have clearly marked borders with 'no firearms' signs.

This ordinance amendment has the potential to turn law abiding citizens into criminals because they crossed the street onto city property.

This ordinance amendment puts a huge burden on legal gun owners in Norwalk - to determine what is city owned property and where the line is.

This ordinance amendment has the potential to create parking lots full of unattended cars with unattended firearms inside. A firearm supermarket for our local criminals!

This ordinance amendment unfairly burdens pedestrians, bicyclists, and anyone not using a personal vehicle to get to the parks or trails.

Regards,
Megan McNeill 06855

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Another one for you!

From: Dani SNOW <dani_snow@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Andrea Gottlieb <ahgottlieb@gmail.com>; Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Subject: Re: gun ordinance

I am in favor of keeping a gun free Norwalk City Hall, parklands and especially our beaches, that are a family meeting point almost year round.

We must provide and healthy and safe areas for all our residents.

Best,

Dani Snow

danisnow*
visual communication
art direction
graphic design

6 thomes street
rowayton, CT 06853

usa +1.347.614.7976
dani_snow@mac.com
www.danisnow.com

Candela, Brian

From: George Bennett <ggben1@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:32 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Gun ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I sending you this Email in opposition to any ban on fire arms on town property Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: MBmohn <michael.b.mohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Conceal Carry Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Brian,

I hope all is well on your end and thank you for your service to the town of Norwalk.

I wanted to reach out as a concerned citizen regarding the proposed concealed carry ordinance.

As a longtime permit holder, I take pride in the seriousness that goes along with this specific classification. Conceal Carry Permit Holders are historically the most law-abiding individuals in the country. We've passed our background checks, we take (and teach) safety courses, and we encourage our community to take safety seriously while abiding by the law. But beyond that, we take the safety of ourselves and families to be paramount.

That said, I was curious as to WHY this ordinance is even being discussed. Was there any incident at the beach or park that resulted in unlawful or dangerous use of a firearm? Has consideration been given that this ordinance could instantly turn someone simply exercising their right to self defense into a felon? Do their rights go out the door because they have sand beneath their feet?

I am all for obeying the law, and all for safety. But I think it would be incumbent on you to respect the seriousness and the training that permit holders exemplify in the community each day. We are here to keep ourselves and our peers safe. Never to endanger anyone.

That said I would strongly encourage you to dismiss this ordinance.

Thank you,

Michael Mohn

Candela, Brian

From: salem12ga@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Drop gun ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

It is wrong and unconditional to limit the right of law abiding citizens to carry self protection arms. Please do not move forward with this bill.

Frank Salem
Stanford, Ct.

Candela, Brian

From: Ryan Gillespie <ryandgillespie@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Concealed carry holders

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I am all for gun laws and law abiding citizens carrying their firearms to protect themselves and those around them. Banning firearms on public streets, beaches and parks is just not right. The reason I can enjoy those places is because I have the ability to protect myself and loves ones.

If you want to ban firearms in public town buildings (which I believe is already the case) ie townhall I can fully support that.

I strongly suggest that you don't pass this bill and hurt us law abiding citizens.

Ryan Gillespie
NRA pistol instructor

Candela, Brian

From: Anthony Vanech <atv2@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Proposed Gun Ban Legislation

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Mr. Candela,
My name is Anthony Vanech. I live here in Norwalk and want you to know I vehemently appose this legislation!

We, the legally, professionally trained, CT authorized and permitted citizenry are NOT the issue.

This proposed legislation will only empower those bent on gun violence.

We are not the threat!

Please reconsider.

Sincerely,
Anthony

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Paul Natoli <pmnatoli1969@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fwd: Against Ban Carrying Firearms on Town Property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear. Mr. Candela,

> I am against the ban on carrying firearms in town property in Norwalk or any town for that matter in Connecticut. Why do these firearm laws always target the law-abiding citizens that are legally permitted to carry by the state? The common criminal will do what they want to do with no regard for the laws, so this proposed ban does nothing to protect citizens in that regard. How does this help the licensed sportsman that utilize town property for activities such as hunting, fishing, or boating? I urge the city council / committee to think about the law abiding citizen, the ones who work hard, pay taxes, and want to enjoy the freedoms this country and the second amendment is all about. Please do not ban carrying firearms on town property. Thank you.

>

> Paul Natoli

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Bobby Sayers <sayracin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:52 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fire arms ban in city property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi,
I have a couple of questions about this evenings meeting on "the proposal on a firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities"

Why is the committee targeting it's most law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

We are not "random people", we are individuals that have been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do they offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety - or does it just feel good? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are they limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

Regards
Carl R. Sayers

Candela, Brian

From: Clare Harrington <cjgharrington@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:54 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

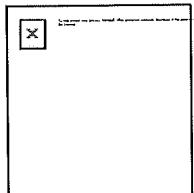
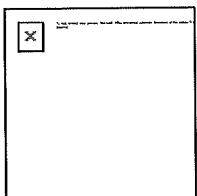
Hello Mr. Candela.

I would like to register my objection to the ban on firearms on city owned property and facilities.

This is unfair to law-abiding, legally certified gun owners. It will hamper ability for us to move about freely and compromise safety for those of us who are responsible permit holders.

The criminals will not abide by this proposal -- you can be certain of that. So, the only ones who will be affected by this will be the law-abiding citizens of CT.

Thank you,
Clare Harrington



Clare Harrington
203.869.8750
Fluctuat nec mergitur

Candela, Brian

From: Julian Collot <julian.collot@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:57 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Dominique Johnson; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Shanahan, Lisa; Keegan, Tom; Heuvelman, David; Livingston, Thomas P.
Subject: Conceal carry ban on public property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

My name is Julian Collot and I am reaching out in regards to the proposed ban on the legal carrying of firearms on public property.

I and many others feel it unfairly targets law abiding citizens who only have the best intentions while carrying. To even qualify for a pistol permit, one must go through extensive and lengthy background checks that can take up to several months to complete and provide 3 character references. Conceal carry permit holders are some of the most law abiding people you will ever find. They have been signed off to carry by our own police department and yet cannot even be trusted to carry on public property. If I can be trusted to buy, possess and carry a firearm then why does the distinction of city vs non city property need to be made? Was there a specific incident to prompt this? It seems to me along with many others that this law isn't in the interest of public safety but rather one that gives people a false sense of security. Just because it is illegal does not mean people won't do it anyway and that's where we need to worry the most. The only people carrying at that point are those who are intent on causing harm to others and will face little to no opposition since they won't be expecting it. Now you may be thinking, "that's what the cops are for." The problem is that your average cop is less proficient with their service weapon than a CCW holder. For most CCW holders, guns are both a tool and a hobby. We go to the range more and have better practice as a result. I myself go to the range about twice a month to work on my aim. Compare that to your average cop who qualifies semi annually at best. Cops who make deadly mistakes will face no legal consequences (although that is fortunately changing little by little in light of recent events).

I realize for many of you, gun rights aren't a major concern but I ask that you please reconsider this rule that will really only harm the innocent and leave them vulnerable from harm. It is an arbitrary restriction on our right to bear arms that we have had to endure for years on end. Thank you for your time.

Julian Collot

Candela, Brian

From: Train Safe Academy <trainsafeacademy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Section 38-4 Regarding Rules For Carrying Firearms On City Owned/Leased Properties

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good Afternoon Committee Members,

I'm writing you today to stress the dangers in such ordinances such as Section 38-4 Regarding Rules For Carrying Firearms On City Owned/Leased Properties. As an American first this proposal is against the constitution, a right such as the 2nd Amendment isn't to be altered just because someone passed a school on his way to go hunt. That individual should have used better judgement in the fact that most of us will forever be changed in the aftermath of Sandy Hook & all of the other tragedies this nation has witnessed. As a parent I definitely want my children to be safe but anyone who seeks to do harm & especially illegal gun owners don't care about your "Gun Free Zones". What you're doing by restricting legal(meaning no felonies or misdemeanors to qualify) gun owners is creating a safe haven for anyone with evil intentions. I don't know what perfect bubble the committee lives in but in the real world there are a plethora of crimes that are perpetrated on regular citizens everyday. It is my sovereign right to be able to protect myself. 56% of the time police show up after the fact being that we don't live in a perfect world, outside of Federal property and schools I should be able to carry wherever I do choose. Lastly as a black man in this country it's pure negligence to shallowly assume everyone's reality mirrors your own. Just how much hatred that still exist has been made very clear, & much like the Jews who never left Germany, one would be a fool to assume I could never become victim to a racist attack. I ask that you do away with this proposal and anything looking like it in the future meetings. I also ask that this committee take it upon themselves to take a gun safety class to better understand how things work prior to dictating to the public how to exercise our rights.

Thank you,

William Hampton

--

Train Safe Academy

Candela, Brian

From: First Choice Auto Body <firstchoiceauto@optimum.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:01 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: proposal of fire arm band

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To whom it may concern I am a resident of Norwalk now for 15 plus years, i have been a legal pistol permit holder for 25 years. Me and my family are hunters and have been since they can walk. I absolutely do not agree with this. We have the right to bear arms and protect ourselves. We have rights as American's, we have the right by the 2nd amendment. For you to do this is unconstitutional and complete bs. I find it funny how the city of Norwalk has taken this time during a pandemic to hold these meetings so people can not be there the same you guys are doing with the Norden project in East Norwalk Neighborhood you should all be ashamed of yourselves. Times are hard enough and the last thing legal gun owners need to deal with is a bunch of politicians trying to control more of our rights. We live in America, STOP trying to control us.

Chris Vitti 32 Oriole dr. Norwalk 06851

Candela, Brian

From: erik nees <eriknees@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms Ordinance

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Dear Brian,

I would like to submit my opposition to the proposed firearm ban for town properties in the City of Norwalk. It appears that this ordinance is directly targeting the most law abiding group of people, the permit holders. I cannot recall any issues or complaints regarding firearms being carried on City Property, why are they proposing an ordinance that could make permit holders felons if they do carry on city owned property? I am also concerned about limiting hunters access to waterfowl hunting. Again, another group of law abiding individuals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Erik Nees
Norwalk, CT
(203)858-2240

Candela, Brian

From: P BRANTNER <pbrantner@snet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:00 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm Ban

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To Brian Candela,
As a responsible firearm owner with a valid CT carry permit I feel this ban is against my Constitutional Rights.
a former Norwalk resident
Paul T Brantner
495 Hooker Road Bridgeport 06610
203-870-9841

Candela, Brian

From: Andrew Pasheluk <apasheluk@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:15 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearm ban

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Norwalk has issued me a carry permit. This is a really underhanded way of negating that permit.

Sent with AquaMail for Android

<https://www.mobisystems.com/aqua-mail>

Candela, Brian

From: Jan Kniffen <jankniffen@jrkwwe.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:44 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Firearms ban on city property

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I am not a resident of Norwalk. I am a resident of Greenwich. But, I visit Norwalk often for business and pleasure. I have a valid CT concealed carry license. This ordinance makes exercising that right and being in Norwalk mutually exclusive. I urge you to not go forward with the "ban."

Jan Rogers Kniffen, CEO
J Rogers Kniffen WorldWide
Greenwich CT | New York | St Charles MO
212-724-2204 or 314-267-5668
jrkwwe.com

Candela, Brian

From: Keegan, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:50 PM
To: Candela, Brian; Shanahan, Lisa; Livingston, Thomas P.; Roberts, Kadeem; Langella, Manny; Heuvelman, David; Revolus, Diana
Subject: Fw: Norwalk Waterfowl Hunting
Attachments: Norwalk Hunting Report.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Madame Chair, Brian, et al: I was sent this today and I believe it should be discussed by our committee. Thanks
Tom K

From: Jack Harder <jackh74@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Waterfowl Hunting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Tom,

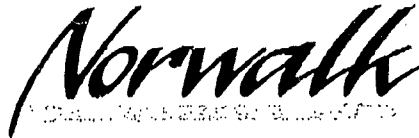
I've attached the State report from 2000 regarding waterfowl hunting in Norwalk. I was part of the hunt review team. Over the years I think I've spoken to the council at least 4 times regarding waterfowl hunting at Veteran's Park and Calf Pasture. There isn't anything dangerous about hunting in the areas but from a public relations/perception area it's not a great place to hunt. I've NEVER hunted at Veteran's Park and only hunted Calf Pasture in really bad weather.

The issue that we at the Connecticut Waterfowl Association had/have is that areas shouldn't be closed every time a few people have a problem with waterfowl hunting. Areas should be closed for safety or biology reasons. Not for political reasons.

Are you Paul Keegan's brother? Paul and I worked together years ago.

Thanks,

Jack Harder



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE

May 24, 2000

Mr. Ed Parker, Bureau Chief
Natural Resource Division
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Parker:

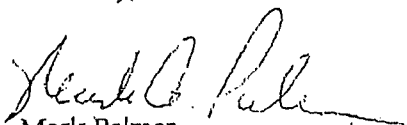
The purpose of this letter is to initiate with the Department of Environmental Protection, the procedures for prohibiting hunting at Calf Pasture Beach and Shady Beach in Norwalk. Over the last several years, these areas have seen a significant increase in recreational use during the late fall and winter months. Numerous people use this area for walking, jogging, roller-blading and similar activities. In addition, a new children's playground has been erected which is regularly used throughout the year.

This type of recreational activity happens just a short distance away from where hunting occurs. It is not uncommon for children to see hunters with guns exiting their vehicles and shooting at waterfowl. While police department records indicate only five hunting complaints during the 1999-2000 season, there have been other complaints made to the Recreation and Parks Department as well as complaints through the local media regarding hunters at the beach areas.

The Parks and Recreation Department and Police Department have met with a representative of a local hunting group to discuss this issue. It was explained that if hunting were to be restricted at Calf Pasture and Shady Beach, other public facilities (such as Veteran's Park) would still be accessible for hunting.

Please give all due consideration to this request. We welcome discussing this issue with you further.

Sincerely,


Mark Palmer
Deputy Chief of Police


Michael A. Moccia III
Acting Director
Recreation and Parks

Interoffice Memo

Date: August 7, 2001

To: Edward C. Parker, Bureau Chief

Cc:

From: Greg Chasko

RE: **Hunting Review Team's Assessment of Waterfowl Hunting at Calf Pasture, Shady Beach and Veterans' Park in Norwalk**

BACKGROUND

In May 2000, the Department received a letter from Mark Palmer, Deputy Chief of Police for Norwalk and Michael A. Moccia III, Acting Director, Recreation and Parks asking the Department "to initiate the procedure for prohibiting hunting at Calf Pasture Beach and Shady Beach in Norwalk." In their letter they stated that over the last several years these areas have seen a significant increase in recreational use during the fall and winter months, including a new children's playground. They noted that these recreational activities occur a short distance (approximately 300 feet) away from where hunting is occurring. During the 1999-2000 season Norwalk Police Records indicated that five complaints were received. Subsequent to Messrs. Palmer and Moccia's letter, the Department also agreed, at Norwalk's request, to evaluate the Veterans' Park area.

In response to this request, a Hunting Review Team consisting of David Kubas, Conservation Education/Firearms Safety Coordinator, Conservation Officer Eric Lundin and myself, was established. This Team along with Conservation Officers Jeff Samoryzck and Rob Hancock met on site with Deputy Chief Palmer, Mr. Moccia and Norwalk Marine Patrol Officer Studwell on August 24, 2000. Alex Samor and Jack Harder, Connecticut Waterfowlers Association, were also in attendance.

CRITERIA FOR CLOSURE

In the past, the Department has closed certain areas to hunting or imposed additional restrictions at some sites. Sec. 26-67c CGS identifies the criteria for closure which in pertinent part are: "The Commissioner may amend regulations for a particular locality where he finds that: 1) The physical setting of a particular locality presents **an unreasonable risk that hunters may violate the regulations** regarding hunting in proximity to buildings occupied by persons or domestic animals or used for storage of flammable or combustible materials or the regulations regarding shooting towards persons, buildings or animals or; 2) A record of documented complaints reveals that **violations of such regulations occur with significant frequency.**"

Under existing regulations, no waterfowl hunting is allowed in tidal waters within 250 feet of an occupied dwelling unless written permission from the owner of such a building is obtained and carried by the hunter (RCSA 26-66-1[d]). Also, no hunting firearm shall be discharged toward any person, building or domestic animal when the same is within range (RCSA 26-66-1[e]). In effect, this means that when waterfowl hunters are hunting from shore or close to shore in populated areas, they are legally required to fire seaward – away from dwellings or people on the shoreline.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Calf Pasture, Shady Beach and Veterans' Park are Town Parks in Norwalk. The Calf Pasture, Shady Beach area is located on the south and east sides of Calf Pasture Point, a peninsula that extends into Long Island Sound. Veterans' Park is located on the east side of Norwalk Harbor.

Hunting occurs in the waters adjacent to the beach at Calf Pasture/Shady Beach. Waterfowl hunters most often hunt from small patches of mud flat and developing marsh vegetation that occur at several spots along the south edge of the park (See Fig. 1). A walking trail in the park parallels these beaches. A pier (approximately 365 feet in length) extends into Long Island Sound at the southeastern tip of the peninsula. Several park buildings and a children's playground occur inside the trail on the east side of the park approximately 300 feet from the water's edge. On the south side of the park grassy ball fields occur approximately 288 feet from the water's edge. These fields receive substantial use by Canada geese.

At Veterans' Park, waterfowl hunting typically occurs along the south edge of the park (See Fig. 2). The ball fields and other grassy areas in the park receive substantial use by Canada geese.

HRT FINDINGS

- Correspondence from and conversations with Norwalk officials indicate that the public's concerns regarding waterfowl hunting are: 1) park visitors see hunters and hear shooting and; 2) hunting may present a threat to the safety of the users of the park at Calf Pasture, Shady Beach.
- Deputy Chief Palmer indicated that during the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 hunting seasons that there were no arrests made by the Norwalk Police Department for violations of waterfowl hunting regulations. Mr. Palmer indicated that five complaints were received about hunting at Calf Pasture, Shady Beach during the 1999-2000 season and that several were received during the 2000-2001 season.
- A review of Department of Environmental Protection Law Enforcement records for the last three hunting seasons (1998-2001) indicated that no arrests were made for violations of waterfowl hunting regulations related to safety at Calf Pasture, Shady Beach or Veterans' Park. The Department issued seventeen citations regarding waterfowl hunting in the Town of Norwalk during the past three years, mostly regarding failure to possess valid duck stamps or HIP (Harvest Information Program) permits.
- Department Conservation Enforcement Officer Samoryzck (the officer responsible for patrolling this area) has checked several hunters at Calf Pasture Beach, Shady Beach and Veterans' Park during the last two hunting seasons. He indicated that the Calf Pasture, Shady Beach area receives relatively little use by hunters and that the majority of activity is goose hunting, mostly taking place during the late goose season (January 15 – February 15). Hunting usually occurs in early morning hours when use of park is limited.
- At Calf Pasture Beach, Shady Beach some members of the HRT identified a potential concern regarding the potential for hunters to shoot towards the pier. If such shooting occurs, it would be a violation of existing regulations (RCSA 26-66-1[e]).

- At Veterans' Park some members of the HRT identified a potential concern that if hunters shot in a westerly or southwesterly direction pellets could strike the docks there. If such shooting occurs, it would be a violation of existing regulations (RCSA 26-66-1[e]).

HRT CONCLUSIONS

- There have been no hunting safety problems at Calf Pasture Beach, Shady Beach or Veterans' Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The HRT recommends that:

- 1) Calf Pasture and Shady Beach remain open to hunting without additional regulatory restrictions.
- 2) Veterans' Park remain open to hunting without additional regulatory restrictions.
- 3) Informative signs be posted at these sites describing the hunting activities that may take place and season dates. Information could be included to remind hunters that: 1) other outdoor enthusiasts may use the area during the hunting season; 2) they are legally required to shoot seaward; and, 3) at Calf Pasture, Shady Beach, shooting toward the pier when it is within range would be a violation of existing regulations; 4) at Veterans' Park shooting toward the docks on the west side of the harbor would be a violation of existing regulations. The TIP number could be listed to facilitate the reporting of any violations witnessed by hunters or the public. The Department, in consultation with town officials, would develop and post these signs.
- 4) Department Conservation Enforcement Officers continue to monitor waterfowl hunting at these locations.

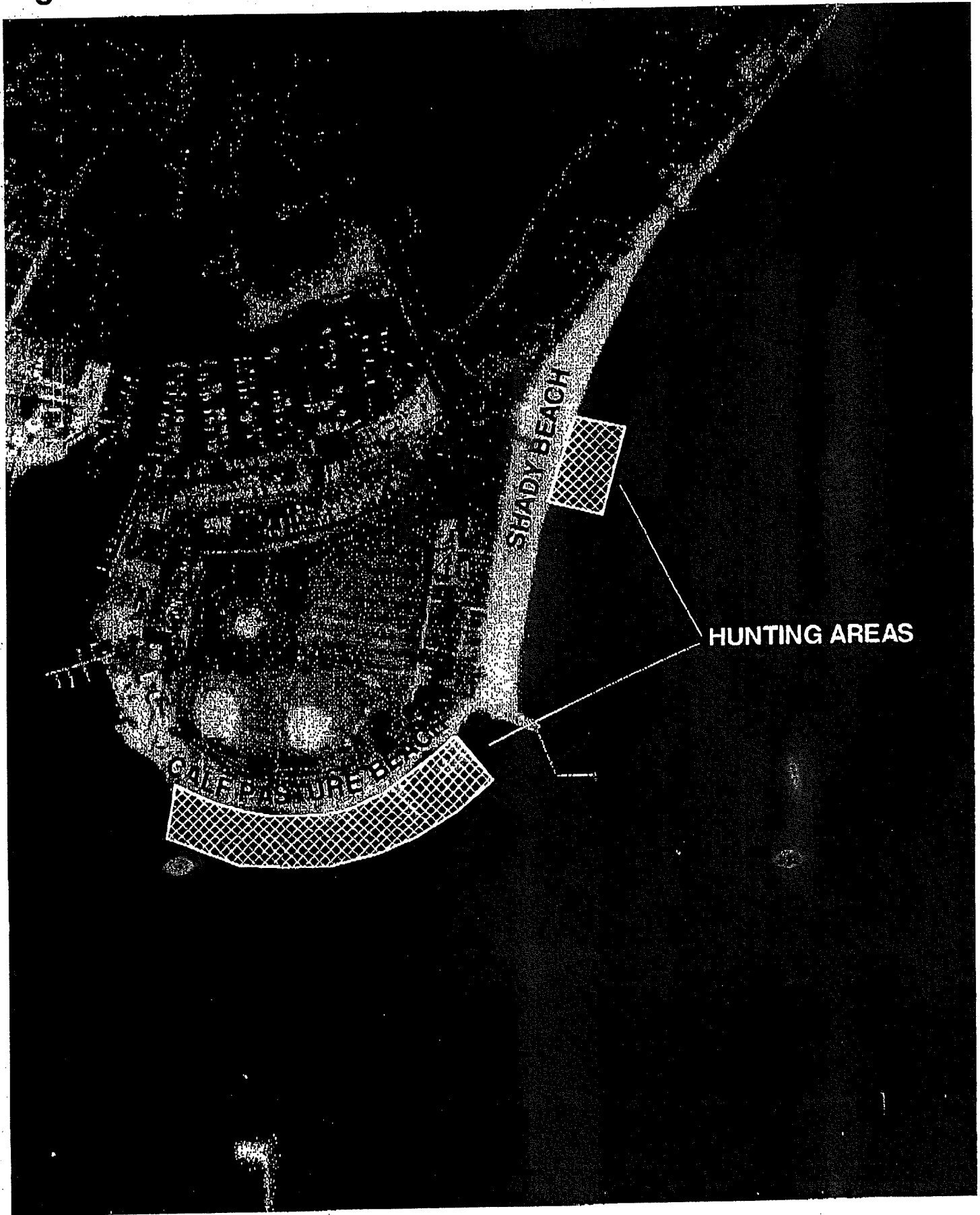
EXPLANATION

The major concern identified by town officials at Calf Pasture and Shady Beaches was that hunting occurs in close proximity to other recreational uses of the park by the public. It should be noted that waterfowl hunting has been taking place safely for many years along several heavily developed Connecticut shoreline areas that have similar situations, (i.e., hunting occurs near beach areas that experience substantial use by the public). The Department will not close a site based solely on noise concerns or public opposition to hunting. Furthermore, the Department will not deny hunters the opportunity to recreate in public trust areas (below mean high water) based on concerns over noise and the perception that the situation is unsafe. Waterfowl hunting is a safe activity that routinely occurs near areas of high human use with few conflicts. Violations of regulations regarding shooting towards people or dwellings within range are very rare. The HRT believes that while the sights and sounds associated with waterfowl hunting may be disconcerting to some users of the park, the criteria for closure required in Sec. 26-67c CGS have not been met. Therefore, there is no basis in law to prohibit waterfowl hunting at these sites.

Figure 2. Veterans' Park, Norwalk, CT



Figure 1. Calf Pasture Point, Norwalk, CT



leges of sportsmen, landowners and the general public; (j) the problem of providing and perpetuating a sound program of wildlife management and a sound recreational program consistent with the availability of the species.

(1955, S. 2477d; 1971, P.A. 872, S. 262; P.A. 73-616, S. 23; P.A. 74-328, S. 60, 94; P.A. 87-589, S. 41, 87.)

History: 1971 act substituted references to environmental protection commissioner for references to board of fisheries and game; P.A. 73-616 deleted references to members of abolished board; P.A. 74-318 made technical change; P.A. 87-589 deleted provision re notice and hearing.

Sec. 26-67a. Confidentiality of reports. Notwithstanding any provision of section 1-210 to the contrary, no person shall obtain, attempt to obtain or release to any person or government agency any identifiable individual record of or information derived from any report submitted in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of section 26-66, without the consent of the person making the report, except that the commissioner may authorize the release of such information for the purposes of wildlife research, management or development.

(P.A. 86-111, S. 3.)

Sec. 26-67b. Commissioner to advise law enforcement authorities re fish and game laws. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall annually advise the Commissioner of Public Safety and the chief law enforcement officer of each municipality regarding: (1) Any changes in the laws and regulations relating to fish and game, (2) the powers of such officers to enforce fish and game laws, and (3) any telephone number which may be used to report violations of any such laws.

(P.A. 91-378, S. 5.)

Sec. 26-67c. Complaints re hunting in proximity to certain areas. Hearing. Records to be kept by law enforcement officials. Report to General Assembly. (a) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall maintain a record of all written complaints received by the department of violations of the regulations concerning hunting in proximity to buildings occupied by persons or domestic animals or used for storage of flammable or combustible materials or the regulations regarding shooting towards persons, buildings or animals. The commissioner shall hold a hearing at least once annually, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, at which changes in such regulations for particular localities shall be considered. The commissioner may amend such regulations for a particular locality where he finds that: (1) The physical setting of a particular locality presents an unreasonable risk that hunters may violate the regulations regarding hunting in proximity to buildings occupied by persons or domestic animals or used for storage of flammable or combustible materials or the regulations regarding shooting towards persons, buildings or animals or (2) a record of documented complaints reveals that violations of such regulations occur with significant frequency.

(b) The chief law enforcement official for each municipality, or his designee, shall maintain a record of all complaints received by such official in each calendar year regarding any potential hazard to public safety related to any hunting activity and shall submit such record to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection annually. Such record shall be maintained separately from all other records of complaints received by such official. After an investigation of any such complaint, if the chief law enforcement official determines that a particular hunting activity in a particular location poses a hazard to public safety, he shall submit a written report of such determination to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection.

(c) On or before February 1, 1995, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment which set forth for the preceding year ending December thirty-first the number of complaints received and investigations conducted along with the action taken.

(P.A. 91-378, S. 8; P.A. 93-408, S. 1.)

History: P.A. 93-408 added new Subjects, (b) and (c) re records of law enforcement officials and a report to the General Assembly, respectively.

Sec. 26-67d. Negligent hunting offenses.

By implementing procedure for dealing with local safety concerns, the state has given Department of Environmental Protection the ultimate decision-making authority; municipal ordinances are thus preempted. 46 CS 588.

Sec. 26-67d. Falconry: Definitions. (1) As used in this section and section 26-67e, "raptor" means any bird of the family Accipitridae, Falconidae or Strigidae, but does not mean any bird listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern in regulation adopted under section 26-306; and (2) "falconry" means the activity of taking wild quarry in its natural habitat by means of trained raptors.

(P.A. 98-153, S. 1.)

Sec. 26-67e. Falconry: Applicable federal regulations. Commissioner authorized to adopt regulations. Fee reciprocity. Any person engaged in falconry shall abide by the provisions of Title 50 CFR and guidelines established by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service governing falconry. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, consistent with or more restrictive than federal regulations. If the commissioner requires a permit with or more restrictive than federal regulations. If the commissioner requires a permit for falconry, a permittee shall possess a valid state hunting license before obtaining any class of falconry permit and shall submit, on or before January first annually, a self certification that the permittee's activities comply with the provisions of federal falconry regulations. Nonresidents may practice falconry in this state consistent with nonresident fees or for the same fee as a resident of this state if such nonresident is a resident of a state the laws of which allow the same privilege to residents of this state.

(P.A. 98-153, S. 2.)

Sec. 26-68. Emergency declaration of closed seasons. The commissioner may, in an emergency, declare a closed season on any species of game birds, wild quadrupeds, reptiles or amphibians threatened with undue depletion from any cause and, if deemed necessary, to close any area, or any stream, lake or pond, or portions thereof, to hunting and trapping for limited periods of time.

(1955, S. 2477d; 1971, P.A. 872, S. 263; P.A. 85-51, S. 7.)

History: 1971 act substituted reference to environmental protection commissioner for reference to board of fisheries and game; P.A. 85-51 added reptiles and amphibians to the list of animals for which an emergency declaration of closed season may be made.

Sec. 26-69. Wildlife management practices. The commissioner may engage in wildlife management practices and may expend from federal aid funds necessary monies to establish, construct and maintain, on any state-owned land and water under his control and, with the consent of the owner, on private land and water, wildlife propagation installations, facilities and associated structures, experimental stations and facilities, and perform, or have performed, any work related to the establishment, restoration, improvement, control and protection of wildlife habitats, and perform or have performed any work related to the creation of facilities for ingress and egress and the creation of

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:07 PM
To: Amy Strickland
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you so much for your note. It will be shared with all of our committee members.

From: Amy Strickland <amycuge@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilwoman Lisa Shanahan -

I am writing to give my STRONG support for the proposed gun ordinance requiring city premises, beaches and park lands to be gun free! I am a mother of 3 daughters ranging in age from 8 to 14 who use Bayley beach and Calf Pasture often. They also play multiple sports on city fields. I fear for their safety knowing guns are permitted in such areas. I respect peoples right to own a firearm but do not feel they should be allowed on public property where they can be used irresponsibly. I also want to be able to speak at town meetings freely without fear of being threatened or harmed.

I hope you will approve this measure.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards -

Amy Strickland
Norwalk resident since 2007

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Tonia Barringer
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you so very much for your comments. They will be shared with all of our committee members.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Tonia Barringer <falconer@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:05 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

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To Whom it may Concern;

Please accept our apologies for the late letter. We are writing in support of the Gun Ordinance proposed. There is simply no reason that people should be carrying guns in our parks and on our beaches. The usual victim is an innocent bystander and often, a child. Please know that you have our support for this excellent proposal.

Tonia and Paul Barringer
115 Maywood Road
Norwalk, CT 06850

Public Comment
Ordinance Committee Meeting
November 17, 2020
Part 3

Candela, Brian

From: chetsy@saurmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: sorry, I just saw your e-mail re the Norwalk propoal

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

First: what part of "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed" do you not understand? The first part of the sentence of the annotated Second Amendment reads, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State." That would be armed citizens--for those who chose to legally obtain firearms and go through the state to do so.

Legal gun owners are not the problem here. Bust people that don't have a license, but respect the fact that legal gun owners are not criminals. The guns are purely for self-defense (unless they also happen to be hunters).

Look at the violence happening in Oregon and Washington and Wisconsin and Chicago (some on a daily basis). I think it is very legitimate to want to have a means of self-defense. People's homes and businesses are being burned, people are dying, and the police are less and less in control since the media is quick to blow stuff out of proportion without first waiting for the facts to come in.

What if that couple in St. Louis didn't have weapons to fend off the crowd? That could be your house or store. There is more unrest daily, especially with the lockdowns causing so much poverty and despair with lost jobs and businesses. Crowds will be more mob-like the more this covid thing gains momentum, and ordinary crime is already up.

Signaling with this ban to criminals that their intended target is probably unarmed will only prompt them to go through with their intentions.

Don't make the police arrest peaceful citizens --and who many times protect their neighbors as well. This will make a policeman be an adversary to peaceful society.

Shame on Norwalk for even considering that citizens be stripped of their basic right to self-defense. This goes far beyond the Bill of Rights.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:09 PM
To: Kristine Thomas
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ban ordinance

Thank you so much for your email. Your comments will be shared with our committee.

From: Kristine Thomas <krisa5700@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:49 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ban ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities. Police officers, whose duty is to protect and serve the community, should be the only ones allowed to carry weapons in city facilities.

Thank You.

Kristine Thomas
27 Heron Road, Norwalk 06855

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Lou Benedetto
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: firearms

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee

From: Lou Benedetto <lbenedett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: firearms

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Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Committee members;

I understand the committee will be meeting to discuss the banning of firearms on town property, such as parks, parking lots and beaches. Guns are already prohibited in all municipal buildings and courthouses. Will this extend to city streets as well? Whats left? Just our own property? Why has this come up? I have heard of no incident with a firearm that would cause alarm.

Whenever gun rights are threatened I feel that those who have gone through background checks, 3 sets of fingerprinting (City of Norwalk—State Police of CT—and the FBI)are being unjustly targeted. Those of us who believe in the law will always obey the law. Those who don't will NEVER follow the law.

So I ask you, don't create felons out of law abiding Norwalk citizens. Please do not pass this ordinance.

Louis Benedetto
Citizen of Norwalk since 1963

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Chris Charise
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Proposed Law regarding the Legal Carrying of a concealed firearm in Norwalk

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Chris Charise <charisec1984@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed Law regarding the Legal Carrying of a concealed firearm in Norwalk

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom this may concern,

Just some quick background on who I am... I've been a resident of Norwalk my entire life, 36 years. I have an income personal training business in the area, lots of family in the area, and an incredible amount of friends and acquaintances around here after spending so many decades in our city. I've always been incredibly proud to have come from such a diverse town ethnically, socioeconomically, etc... I truly consider myself fortunate to have made friends with people from all walks of life both in and out of Norwalk. I've spent time in some of the lowest income areas in town as that's where some of my good friends lived when I was younger, I've also spent time with folks who live in multimillion dollar houses in some of the surrounding towns, and I've spent time with countless individuals who fall somewhere in between the two. After spending 36 years getting to know people of all different races, all different socioeconomic statuses, all different political views, so and so forth I've discovered the one obvious theme unites every single one of us... We are all human, and as human beings we should always have an inalienable right to defend ourselves and our loved ones from anyone who attempts to cause us harm. Personally, I believe this is simply a human right. Fortunately, being born a citizen of the USA, the 2nd Amendment grants us this right, "the right to bear arms"...

With that said, I'm completely dumbfounded to have heard there are considerations to ban law abiding citizens who have already earned their right to carry a concealed weapon from doing so on city owned properties. I will assume that each one of you already understands how thorough the process of acquiring a concealed carry permit is in the State of Connecticut. After someone has already gone through all of these measures and proven themselves to be a trustworthy citizen, why would you want to strip them of this right and treat them as if they are somehow creating a problem by legally carrying a weapon that is concealed(i.e. not seen). If this isn't some sort of measure to try to slowly dwindle away the 2A completely then I wholeheartedly don't understand what positive could possibly come from making these areas "Gun Free Zones". I have a lot of questions....

1) Out of all of the gun violence in the city of Norwalk over the past 5-10 years how many of the individuals committing these crimes were law abiding concealed carry permit holders?
(Although I am not a believer that one man/women's bad choice should effect another man/women's rights, if you could show that concealed carry holders ARE in fact the cause of the gun violence in the city then I could see why a measure like this might be suggested, otherwise I am dumbfounded as to what purpose this law would serve)

2) It's seemingly well known amongst law enforcement, military, ATF, etc... that a "Gun Free Zone" is a SOFT TARGET. It's appealing to criminals as it reassures them that nobody will be able to fight back until cops arrive, and by that point it's typically too late. Why in God's name would we make more parts of Norwalk "Soft Targets" for any criminal or psychopath who wants to cause the residents of Norwalk harm???

3) If we eliminate the right of law abiding citizens to carry a concealed firearm in so many locations, then all we are left with is criminals carrying illegal firearms in these locations. I really don't want to come across rude here, but does this seriously make sense to you all? Criminals obviously don't obey laws, that's what makes them criminals. So why would we pass a law that would make it easier and more appealing for criminals to commit armed crimes in these areas? I know a lot of women who carry on a regular basis. Firearms are an equalizer, they allow a 100lb women to defend herself from a much larger male attacker. What will you say the first time a women is attacked, robbed, raped, or harmed in any other god-awful way at a Norwalk park or beach BECAUSE THE CITY OF NORWALK PASSED A LAW THAT PREVENTED HER FROM CARRYING HER ONLY MEANS OF PROTECTING HERSELF. PLEASE think of the possible ramifications of such a measure as this is not at all an unrealistic possibility.

4) We are in the middle of a global pandemic, there has to be dozens of more important things to worry about, but it's more gun legislation that's coming to the surface? Really?? I'm a bit disappointed that time is being spent on something like this when we clearly need to be spending A LOT more time sorting out the ever changing situation pertaining to Covid-19

5) All this anti-law enforcement rhetoric has made pro-active policing is a thing of the past. I am not in law enforcement myself, but almost everyone I know who is has said this is the cause. So now we have less pro-active policing and a city who doesn't want it's citizens to be able to protect themselves either???

I had to rush to write this so I apologize for any typos and grammatically errors. I hope we can come to some sort of rationale conclusion as I truly do not understand why such a law would even be proposed.

Sincerely,
Chris Charise

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Robert Pignataro
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Oppose Firearms Ban

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with the committee.

From: Robert Pignataro <robert.pignataro1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Oppose Firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Norwalk Common Council Committee Members,

As a resident of neighboring Stamford and a frequent visitor to Norwalk public facilities, parks, restaurants and small businesses, I strongly oppose your consideration to ban firearms on city property.

It defies logic to ban legally owned firearms by persons:

- holding valid permits who have followed all CT laws
- completed all background checks by local and federal law enforcement
- paid all fees associated with this constitutional right

There is ZERO evidence that concealed carry permit holders either contribute to gun related crime or endanger the public. In fact it's the opposite.

There is ZERO evidence that targeting the restriction of legal firearms will make Norwalk safer.

Now, more than ever, in light of defunding police and widespread criminal violence, people must maintain their 2nd amendment right to defend themselves, their property, family and businesses.

Making good people helpless will not make Norwalk criminals harmless.

I oppose this illogical, unenforceable and ineffective ban on firearms and its a direct attack on the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution.

Robert Pignataro
Stamford, CT

--

Robert Pignataro
robert.pignataro1@gmail.com
Mobile 203-517-5846

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Oppose Firearms Ban

Stamford resident

From: Robert Pignataro <robert.pignataro1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Oppose Firearms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

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Making good people helpless will not make Norwalk criminals harmless.

I oppose this illogical, unenforceable and ineffective ban on firearms and its a direct attack on the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution.

Robert Pignataro
Stamford, CT

--

Robert Pignataro
robert.pignataro1@gmail.com
Mobile 203-517-5846

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Alyson Cahill
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ban Ordinance support

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Alyson Cahill <alyson.cahill@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:05 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ban Ordinance support

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities."

More guns do not make us safe.

Thank You.

Alyson Cahill
14 Broadview Terr
Norwalk, CT 06851

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Sharon Baanante
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance - City Hall Sidewalks & Open Carry During Protests

Thank you for your comments. We will share them with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Sharon Baanante <sharonbaanante@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance - City Hall Sidewalks & Open Carry During Protests

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ordinance Committee & Common Council,

I am writing in support of a gun ban at all city properties.

I also kindly ask that you consider banning guns from the sidewalks that are attached to Norwalk City Hall. On March 3, 2018, I attended a "March for Gun Reform" event in Norwalk. This event was coordinated by Senator Duff and Mayor Rilling. Elected officials, families, and students attended. We marched from St. Pauls Green to the grass area at City Hall, East Avenue side. During the event, three men open carried and marched (while shouting obscenities) with us to City Hall. At City Hall, the men stood below the speakers that were on the platform. At one point, they separated and surrounded us on the sidewalks attached to the space. They were clearly there to intimidate us as we exercised our right to freedom of speech and freedom to assemble. The police could do nothing other than just watch them closely. They couldn't even ask the men if they had permits to carry.

The bigger picture is, how do we stop men like this who open carry during marches/events/protests with the clear purpose of intimidating people who may not have the same views as them? Can we prohibit open carry on streets and sidewalks for events that require a city permit?

Thanks for listening. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

Sharon. R. Baanante

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Julian Collot
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Conceal carry ban on public property

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Julian Collot <julian.collot@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Conceal carry ban on public property

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

My name is Julian Collot and I am reaching out in regards to the proposed ban on the legal carrying of firearms on public property.

I and many others feel it unfairly targets law abiding citizens who only have the best intentions while carrying. To even qualify for a pistol permit, one must go through extensive and lengthy background checks that can take up to several months to complete and provide 3 character references. Conceal carry permit holders are some of the most law abiding people you will ever find. They have been signed off to carry by our own police department and yet cannot even be trusted to carry on public property. If I can be trusted to buy, possess and carry a firearm then why does the distinction of city vs non city property need to be made? Was there a specific incident to prompt this? It seems to me along with many others that this law isn't in the interest of public safety but rather one that gives people a false sense of security. Just because it is illegal does not mean people won't do it anyway and that's where we need to worry the most. The only people carrying at that point are those who are intent on causing harm to others and will face little to no opposition since they won't be expecting it. Now you may be thinking, "that's what the cops are for." The problem is that your average cop is less proficient with their service weapon than a CCW holder. For most CCW holders, guns are both a tool and a hobby. We go to the range more and have better practice as a result. I myself go to the range about twice a month to work on my aim. Compare that to your average cop who qualifies semi annually at best. Cops who make deadly mistakes will face no legal consequences (although that is fortunately changing little by little in light of recent events).

I realize for many of you, gun rights aren't a major concern but I ask that you please reconsider this rule that will really only harm the innocent and leave them vulnerable from harm. It is an arbitrary restriction on our right to bear arms that we have had to endure for years on end. Thank you for your time.

Julian Collot

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Pat Tinto
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Public Safety Ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Pat Tinto <pattinto1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Public Safety Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilwoman Shanahan,

I support making Norwalk's Parks, Beaches, and City Hall gun-free zones. There is no need for civilians to carry guns in these public spaces. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Pat Tinto
47 Nursery Street, Norwalk, CT 06850

Pat Tinto
Pattinto.com | 203.864-4240 | Pat@pattinto.com
Communications * Public Relations * Strategy

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Stacey Schneider
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Stacey Schneider <info@staceylaine.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:36 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Please keep guns out of our safe spaces!!!

Stacey Schneider
Norwalk Resident

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Megan McNeill
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Section 38 ordinance amendment

Thank you for your note. It will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Megan McNeill <mcneim2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Sacchinelli, Nicholas <npsacchinelli@norwalkct.org>; Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Kydes, John <jkydes@norwalkct.org>; Theodoridis, George <GTheodoridis@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Section 38 ordinance amendment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Common Council Ordinance Committee,

I am writing today to voice my opinion on the proposed amendments to section 38 of the city code.

According to the meeting minutes of the recent ordinance committee meetings - there are not citizen complaints or recorded incidents with legally permitted persons carrying legally registered firearms onto city property. This ordinance amendment does not have a problem to solve. It is virtue signaling at best and an unconstitutional "gun grab" at worst.

This ordinance amendment will keep firearms out of the parks about as well as the no dogs allowed signs keep dogs out of veterans park.

This ordinance amendment undermines any faith we have in the permitting process. Anyone legally carrying a firearm in Norwalk has been vetted by the state, the city and our own police chief!

This ordinance amendment has extremely broad language. It has the potential to require all outdoor spaces to have clearly marked borders with 'no firearms' signs.

This ordinance amendment has the potential to turn law abiding citizens into criminals because they crossed the street onto city property.

This ordinance amendment puts a huge burden on legal gun owners in Norwalk - to determine what is city owned property and where the line is.

This ordinance amendment has the potential to create parking lots full of unattended cars with unattended firearms inside. A firearm supermarket for our local criminals!

This ordinance amendment unfairly burdens pedestrians, bicyclists, and anyone not using a personal vehicle to get to the parks or trails.

Regards,
Megan McNeill 06855

Candela, Brian

From: Peter Drummond-Hay <peterdhay@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa
Cc: Heuvelman, David; Dominique Johnson; Keegan, Tom; Langella, Manny; Livingston, Thomas P.; kroberts@norwalk.org; Candela, Brian
Subject: No guns Please

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Lisa,

We have lived happily and peacefully in Norwalk for 36 years.

Please make sure that people are not allowed to carry guns in our city's public spaces, on beaches and park lands. Nobody is made safer by doing so, unless their aim is to cause harm. People not in law enforcement carrying guns in public causes tension and anxiety and is more likely to provoke violence than to deter or protect against it.

We urge the Common Council to take action to keep guns out of Norwalk's public spaces.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bettina and Peter Drummond-Hay

86 Rowayton Avenue

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:28 PM
To: Optonline
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Optonline <sleggitt@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello.

My name is Susan Leggitt and I am in support of the Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee's proposal of an ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free.

Thank you!

Susan Leggitt

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Peter Drummond-Hay
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: No guns Please

Thank you so much for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Peter Drummond-Hay <peterdhay@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>; kroberts@norwalk.org <kroberts@norwalk.org>; Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>
Subject: No guns Please

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We urge the Common Council to take action to keep guns out of Norwalk's public spaces.

Thank you for your consideration,
Bettina and Peter Drummond-Hay
86 Rowayton Avenue

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Kara Baekey
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Guns on Norwalk Public Property - NO

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Kara Baekey <karanb23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Guns on Norwalk Public Property - NO

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

November 17, 2020

Norwalk Common Council
123 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Council Members:

I am writing in strong support of a ban on guns on public property in Norwalk.

While we in CT enjoy some of the strongest gun safety laws in the country, there is still more that can be done to make our communities safer. As we know, CT allows open and concealed carry of handguns for permitted gun owners.

On the topic of open carry, there is research that shows that it can increase the likelihood of conflict, severely endangering public safety.

Researchers have suggested that the **presence of visible firearms may alter behavior and increase aggressive and violent behaviors.**¹

Multiple studies show that **restrictions on the carrying of concealed weapons can increase public safety.** For example, recent analyses have shown that states with weak standards for concealed carry have higher rates of violent crime² and gun homicides³ than would be expected if the states had stricter standards for public carry.

On the topic of concealed carry, it is my feeling that citizens that carry concealed weapons have a Super Hero complex. That is, they believe that there will be some kind of an altercation whereby they will "need" to draw and fire a weapon in self-defense or of others that they deem to be "good guys." It is my opinion that we should leave the decision to use deadly force to those who are properly trained in assessing tenuous situations, specifically those in law enforcement and the military.

Carrying a gun in public is a tremendous responsibility, and accidents happen every day. We in Norwalk deserve to have our public safety protected by not allowing for guns on public property, permit or no permit.

Please enact this ban.

Thank you,

Kara Nelson Baekey
Founder Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America CT Chapter
69 Melbourne Road
Norwalk, CT 06851

Refs 1, 2, 3 - See <https://giffords.org/lawcenter/gun-laws/policy-areas/guns-in-public/open-carry/>

~~*~*~*~ Kara Nelson Baekey ~*~*~*~**

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:32 PM
To: Stephanie Towers
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. We will share it with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Stephanie Towers <satowers78@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:16 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa and the rest of the Common Council,

As a Norwalk native of 42 years and mother of two, I am writing in support of the ordinance to ban guns from city parks and beaches. Thank you for taking action to protect our children and community.

Best,

Stephanie Towers
15 Indian Spring Road
Rowayton
203-554-6375

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:33 PM
To: T-Party Antiques
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: I support the gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. We will share it with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: T-Party Antiques <info@tpartyantiques.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: I support the gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa,

I support the gun ordinance which will make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free.

Susan Borgen
23 Vanderbilt Ave, Norwalk

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:35 PM
To: Christine McGee
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: please send article

Christine...

I will try to get you some of the articles that describe what you are trying to do.

Your comments will be shared with the committee.

Lisa

From: Christine McGee <brendans101@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: please send article

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,
I am in complete support of gun free norwalk city hall can you please send the article so I can read. Thanks!!
Christine

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Wendell
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: I support the gun ordinance

Thank you. Your comments will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Wendell <wendello@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: I support the gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Thank you for doing this!

Wendell W. Livingston
23 Crockett Street
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:36 PM
To: rjb989@aol.com
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Chapter 38 Explosives

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: rjb989@aol.com <rjb989@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>; Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Chapter 38 Explosives

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ordinance Committee Members,

I urge you to drop the proposal to ban guns on City of Norwalk property and leave the ordinance as it is currently written in the City Code. There are two separate issues to be addressed.

1. Hunting: You don't have any authority to regulate hunting below the mean high tide mark, that power comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. As a former Councilman, I've chaired both the Ordinance and Health Welfare & Safety committees and this issue has come up a few times in previous years. It has been suggested by those opposed to waterfowl hunting off Calf Pasture and Veterans Park that the City could circumvent the DEEP by banning the carrying of shotguns through those parks. After researching the issue during their respective terms, both former Corporation Counsels Donald Reid and Robert Maslan concluded that the City could not ban the weapons from those parks during hunting season if that was the access to the shore and hunting areas.

Further, your proposed ordinance includes a reference to a 250 foot radius from the high tide mark which is confusing as written. State regulations allow a hunter to be just below the mark off public land provided there are no structures within 250 feet that have people, livestock or explosives so that would automatically disallow hunting at the shore in residential neighborhoods. It appears you are proposing that one has to be 250 feet away from the shore of public land.

The Common Council only has the authority to pass local ordinances that the State of Connecticut enables you to enact, and blocking access to a legal hunting area by banning the transport of weapons through a City park is not one of them.

2. Carrying Firearms: The proposed ordinance attempts to ban the carry or possession of a firearm on any City owned property which is much different than what was reported in the local press. Chairperson Shanahan was quoted that it only applied to parks and buildings, however this is cleverly written to make anyone a lawbreaker

who pulls out of their driveway onto a public street with their firearm even if they have a valid pistol carry permit.

As a holder of a permit, I question the motivation behind this proposed ordinance. What problems have we had with legal hunters and permit holders? Do you really think taking away the rights of law abiding citizens will make Norwalk safer? If you are hoping that this will change the behavior of a criminal with a weapon you need a reality check.

Remember, City property is all our property including law abiding citizens. Please reject this proposed ordinance.

Thank You,
Richard Bonenfant
203-838-7751 Home
203-858-1452 Cell Phone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:37 PM
To: Tina Smith
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Tina Smith <tina06854@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:11 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa:

I am writing in support of the Gun Ordinance to ban guns in our City, beaches and parks.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of all of us.

Best,

Tina

Tina Smith
105 Richards Ave.
Unit 1302
Norwalk, Ct 06854

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: District E Meeting and Gun Ordinance

meant to cc you

From: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:37 PM
To: Pat Tinto <pattinto1@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: District E Meeting and Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Pat Tinto <pattinto1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:08 PM
To: galenwells <galenwells@gmail.com>
Cc: Kate Tepper <minw1@yahoo.com>; Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Re: District E Meeting and Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Lisa,

I was about to send you a letter in support of a gun free zone at Norwalk's City Hall, parks and beaches but we lost power on Nursery Street.

I'm using my iPhone for now.

If our power is not restored by then I hope this Message can count as my support if your ordinance.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue.
Patricia Tinto
47 Nursery Street

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2020, at 3:20 PM, Galen Wells <galenwells@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Kate,

Pat said she thought we should have a District E Meeting in November to thank everyone who worked on the election. How about Monday, the 23rd? Also we want to encourage everyone to

send an email to Lisa Shanahan at lshanahan@norwalkct.org supporting the gun ordinance currently before the ordinance committee and the council that would create a gun free zone at City Hall as well as our parks and beaches. Lisa, does this also include schools, the library and all polling places? Mary Finnegan is going to send me links to articles explaining the proposed ordinance

Call me when you can Kate. Thanks!

Galen Wells
galenwells@gmail.com
Phone: 203 866-9045
Cell: 203 515-7410

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Carole Erger-Fass
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun free city parks

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

From: Carole Erger-Fass <carole.bugdesign@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun free city parks

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,
I would like to add my voice in support of the gun-free City Hall and Parks ordinance. Guns have no place in these areas other than for law enforcement!

Thank you,

--

Carole Erger-Fass
Harbor View, Norwalk

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:40 PM
To: Moina Noor
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Support for Gun Ban Ordinance

Thank you for your comments. They will be shared with our committee.

From: Moina Noor <moina.noor@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Support for Gun Ban Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my **full support** of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Moina Noor
15 Pequot Dr., Norwalk, CT 06855

Moina Noor
moina.noor@yahoo.com
(203) 216-4754

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:42 PM
To: Tom Ball
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Tom Ball <tomball14a@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:46 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Norwalk Common Council and Lisa Shanahan, Ordinance Committee Chair:

Please make our Norwalk City premises, beaches and parks gun free.

I have lived in Norwalk for almost 33 years. I support the ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to **make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free**. It is important to keep our City employees safe. They are not permitted to carry guns in the workplace, as the State of Connecticut does not allow guns in the State house nor in the municipal buildings and parks. Norwalk residents should feel safe to visit City Hall and to speak at city meetings without fear. I believe that guns should not be in our city beaches and recreational spaces where children play, nor in parks hosting events where alcoholic beverages might be consumed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Ball
10 Green Beech Drive
Norwalk, CT

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:42 PM
To: mindy green
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: mindy green <greenart.mindy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:37 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I whole-heartedly support the ordinance proposed for Norwalk to have the authority to make our city premises-beaches and park lands GUN FREE.

Thank you for helping to make this happen.

Sincerely
Mindy Green

--

Mindy Green
70 Roton avenue
Rowayton CT 06853
203.856.5947
instagram: minddaly
greenart.mindy@gmail.com
mindygreen.com
GreenHealingTherapy
min@greenhealingtherapy.com

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Elisabeth Lahaussais
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Elisabeth Lahaussais <lahaussais@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,

I am aware of the Norwalk Common Council Committee's ordinance proposal to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make city premises, beaches and park lands gun free. I whole heartedly support this ordinance. Since our federal government will not take gun violence seriously, we must support this from the ground up across the country. Norwalk should take a leadership role in ending gun violence. We need to keep our children and all citizens safe.

Thank you for your leadership in this.

Lisa Lahaussais

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Yves Berliet
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Yves Berliet <Yves@stoptheft.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Yves Berliet

62 Wilson Avenue

Rowayton, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Maryellen Duffy
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee

From: Maryellen Duffy <maryellenduffy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:13 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

SAMPLE:
Attn: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.
Maryellen Duffy
136 Rowayton Woods Drive
Norwalk CT 06854

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:45 PM
To: wayne powless
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: AGAINST firearm ban on city owned property in Norwalk

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: wayne powless <wpowless2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeeagan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: AGAINST firearm ban on city owned property in Norwalk

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

The City of Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee:

The proposed firearms ban on city owned property seems to be in clear violation of my Second Amendment rights and will hamper my ability to protect myself and my family. Also, it will negatively impact all sportsmen and law abiding citizens involved in the shooting and hunting sports. It will impede law abiding citizens with a proper license to possess a firearm to protect themselves and their family. The proposal will further disadvantage law abiding citizens as those carrying firearms illegally will no longer be deterred from further crime and violence against unarmed citizens. Our Second Amendment right exists for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and also allows sportsmen to enjoy the outdoors and all the public lands have to offer.

Please vote 'NO' on this firearms ban proposal.

Thank you,
Wayne Powless

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:46 PM
To: John Nelson
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Proposed gun ban ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: John Nelson <john.nelson9630@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:59 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed gun ban ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

November 17, 2020

Norwalk Common Council
123 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Council Members:

I am writing in strong support of a ban on guns on public property.

I have personal experience. I attended a Moms Demand Action rally on that lawn at the rear of City Hall a couple of years ago with my two young grandchildren and noticed a man lurking at the back of the crowd with a holstered pistol at his hip that he was sort of showing off. I was alarmed and concerned that he might try something crazy as a counter to this event. My daughter was a speaker along with high profile politicians.

I saw a policeman a few spaces over (turned out to be the Chief) and asked him if he had noticed the person and his gun. He said yes, that was a man he thought was from Hartford and who was a gun rights advocate. I asked if he could at least ask the man for ID and a gun permit. He said no, existing law did not allow him to even ask for permit, but he was there to protect us and he was keeping an eye on him.

I mentioned this later to Senator Duff (also at the rally) who asked me to write a letter to him (which I did) as it was a loophole (not being able to ask for a permit) that he wanted to close. I am not completely certain, but I believe this was successfully achieved.

Guns have no place in public places, permit or no permit.

Please enact this ban!

John Nelson
597 Westport Avenue

C-356
Norwalk, CT 06851.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:47 PM
To: Jane Lassner
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee

From: Jane Lassner <janellass@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This is an email to the Norwalk Common Council.

I fully support the Norwalk **gun ban** ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility." I also support giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities. Guns do not belong at *any* recreational place in Norwalk.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, you can reach me at the numbers and location below. Thank you.

Jane L. Lassner
125 Murray Street
Norwalk, CT 06851
H: (203) 454-7466
C: (203) 559-4087
janellass@aol.com

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Kathleen chaudhuri
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

Lisa

From: Kathleen chaudhuri <kathleenchaudhuri@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Lisa Shanahan Ishanahan

I must voice my support to the current ordinance, banning gun possession in City Hall, our parks and beaches.....there must be a few places I need not worry about personal safety as well as those of children of our fine City.

Thank you

Kathleen Chaudhuri
kathleenchaudhuri@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Charles Carroll
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. We will share it with the committee.

From: Charles Carroll <Charles@burkefoundation.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Common Council;

I am writing of support of. Passing an ordinance to restrict guns on our local Norwalk City premises. Why, would we not, like so many other cities and towns in CT , we would not extend the security and peace of mind that this ordinance would provide ?

I am in support of this ordinance to restrict guns in our Norwalk municipal buildings, parks, And beaches which have mothers with their children in them.

Charlie Carroll

Charles Carroll
charles@burkefoundation.org

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:49 PM
To: David Green
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: David Green <david@culturalalliancefc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:47 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Betty Ball <bettyballusa@gmail.com>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Lisa:

As a tenant in Mathews Park, and as host to many visitors to our offices in the Gatehouse of Mathews Park, I strongly support the proposed gun ordinance that would, without question, make Mathews Park and other parks and recreational areas safer and feel more secure for all visitors.

David Green
Executive Director
Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County
Gate Lodge at Mathews Park
301 West Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850
(203) 256-2329; (203) 212-6894 (cell)
www.culturalalliancefc.org
fb.me/fcbuzz.org



Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:50 PM
To: Emanuela Chiaranda
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Emanuela Chiaranda <emaelsa@mail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Emanuela Chiaranda

2 Hadik Parkway

Norwalk CT 06854

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:50 PM
To: George Kollitides
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: New Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: George Kollitides <GeorgeK@acapallc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Cc: CCRRC Secretary <secretary@ccrrc.com>
Subject: New Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Committee and Mr. Candela,

I have been made aware of Norwalk's proposal to ban firearms on City owned property. As I'm sure you aware, and it should be painfully obvious, this will only effect LEGAL gun owners, as anyone illegally in possession of a fire arm, by virtue of that act, is already a law breaker and facing stiff penalties. Therefore, why would this law curb their criminal behavior when others do not? As such, this additional measure will not prevent criminals in the furtherance of their crimes and therefor will not create any additional protections for the population at large. In fact, it will prevent legal gun owners from potentially protecting themselves and others and at a minimum restrict their god given, constitutional right to bear arms. You may not be aware, but should know, that as a class, Americans who possess concealed carry permits ("CCW"), commit crimes at a LOWER rate than police! I am a strong supporter of crime prevention, of safely in our communicates and of our law enforcement personnel. This new ordinance does not accomplish that. While I'm sure this is a well-intended attempt to further protect our citizens, upon reflection, you certainly have to agree that it simply can't accomplish that, but it will surely embolden criminals to act more aggressively.

Please enlighten me; how often, and in what context, have legal gun owners committed a crime on city or municipal property? Please compare that to gun crimes committed by illegal gun possessors. I think you will find the statics overwhelming say that we need to enforce the laws against law breakers, not law abiders. I look forward to seeing the statics that Norwalk tracks on this subject, so that I can see our officials are fact based decision makers, as they were elected to be, not simply reacting emotionally.

Sincere Regards,

George Kollitides
A Concerned Citizen

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:51 PM
To: Michael Duben; Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: firearms ban in Norwalk

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

Lisa Shanahan

From: Michael Duben <endomd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: firearms ban in Norwalk

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon,

The proposed ban on firearms ban on city-owned property and facilities, including parks, beaches, recreational facilities and municipal parking lots, is unconstitutional and counterproductive. It targets law-abiding gun owners who virtually never commit violent crimes. It will do nothing to reduce the crime rate - criminals by definition don't follow gun restrictions. I voice my strong opposition to the proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Duben

--

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Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:53 PM
To: Jennifer Balliett
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Jennifer Balliett <jennielpc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:20 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attention: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

I want to feel safe when I'm at Taylor Farm and Cranbury Park with my dog. I want to feel safe when my kids go to Calf Pasture to meet their friends or the school fields to play their high school sports. I want to feel safe when I attend meetings at City Hall or eat outside at one of our local restaurants.

Let's not wait for a bigger or better reason than Common Sense to do this.

Thank you for your efforts.

Jennifer Balliett
6 Crossland Place
Norwalk, CT 06851

--
Love & Light,
Jenn

www.zenamoon.com
Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/zenamooncandles

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:53 PM
To: April Guilbault
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: gun ban ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: April Guilbault <aprilg@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:13 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: gun ban ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ms. Shanahan and Norwalk Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in/at city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach, or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all facilities".

Thank you~

Best,
April Guilbault
215 West Rocks Road
Norwalk, CT 06851

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Andrea Gottlieb
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. We will share it with our committee.

From: Andrea Gottlieb <ahgottlieb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:12 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,
I agree with what you guys are trying to get done - I sincerely hope this passes!

The Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee is proposing an ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free.

Thank you!
Andrea Gottlieb
12 Harstrom Place
Norwalk, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Ashley Avitabile
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Ashley Avitabile <ashley.avitabile@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:10 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Name

Address

Here are 3 brief articles if you would like more information

'It's a workplace safety rule': Norwalk considering gun ban in city facilities <https://www.ctinsider.com/news/thehour/article/lt-s-a-workplace-safety-rule-Norwalk-15720290.php>

Norwalk looks to ban guns on City property <https://www.nancyonnorwalk.com/norwalk-looks-to-ban-guns-on-city-property>

Stamford and Norwalk mayors take aim at gun violence <https://www.thehour.com/news/article/Stamford-and-Norwalk-mayors-take-aim-at-gun-13393201.php>

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Christine Bisceglie
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Christine Bisceglie <christinebisceglie@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:59 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: galenwells <galenwells@gmail.com>
Subject: Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa ,I am in FULL support to ban guns from government agencies . And from any business owner in the city. I know od one who sells Children's bikes and has guns in shop.Christine Bisceglie.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:56 PM
To: Jennifer Nicasio
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Jennifer Nicasio <jennifer.nicasio@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:48 AM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I very much support an ordinance to keep guns out of our city buildings and parks. Let's keep Norwalk safe. Too many lives have been lost to guns and I can't imagine a reason for someone to need a gun in city hall or on the beach. Thank you.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:56 PM
To: Jennifer Nicasio
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Jennifer Nicasio <jennifer.nicasio@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am in support of an ordinance to disallow guns in city buildings and parks. This is very important to me as a Norwalk resident.

Thank you

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:58 PM
To: cindy holland
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. It wilal be shared with our committee.

From: cindy holland <clanhollan@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Oh my gosh, please limit the allowance of guns in public places in the city of Norwalk.
I am in support of the gun ordinance.
Best,
Cindy Holland

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Elsa Peterson
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: proposed gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Elsa Peterson <epltd@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: proposed gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Lisa,

I fully support banning firearms on city property as the Common Council has proposed.

I believe guns are too easily available, and allowing guns in public spaces is contrary to public safety.

I understand that other cities and towns in our area already ban guns on their municipal property, and Norwalk should do this too.

Sincerely,

Elsa Peterson Obuchowski

41 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851 USA

(203) 846-8331

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:59 PM
To: Nick Vitale
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Proposed Firearms Ban on Norwalk City Properties

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Nick Vitale <nickvitale@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed Firearms Ban on Norwalk City Properties

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Council Members,

I realize the positive intentions of the Ordinance Committee, however this proposed ban will only hurt law-abiding citizens. Those who have no regard for the law or the signs the city will post will still be armed and dangerous. Illegal guns will be the only ones on Norwalk City properties.

As a veteran and law-abiding citizen, please, please do what you can to discourage this proposal.

Thank you,
Nick Vitale

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Carol Bildahl
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Ban Guns

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Carol Bildahl <cbildahl@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Ban Guns

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

--

Carol Bildahl
Design.Consult.Create
406.579.4349 | cbildahl@gmail.com
www.carolbildahl.com
Instagram: @cbildahl

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:01 PM
To: Melissa Bruni
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with our committee.

From: Melissa Bruni <mbruni0215@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Support to make Norwalk parks/beaches gun free

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Melissa Bruni

53 Winding Lane
Norwalk, CT 06851

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:03 PM
To: Kathryn Kukula
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: support gun ban ordinance

Thank you for your email. We will share it with our committee.

From: Kathryn Kukula <kathryn.kukula@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: support gun ban ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I fully support the Norwalk Gun Ban Ordinance in city facilities.

I fully support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facilities, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility" and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

This is common sense and will protect city employees as well as the public. This is not a restriction on gun ownership.

Thank you for seeking public comment on this issue!

Kathryn Kukula
5 Indian Spring Road
Norwalk, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:03 PM
To: Mike Ponzio
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee proposal to ban firearms

Thank you for your email.

From: Mike Ponzio <ponzio22@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>; Roberts, Kadeem <KRoberts@norwalkct.org>; Langella, Manny <MLangella@norwalkct.org>; Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Heuvelman, David <DHeuvelman@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee proposal to ban firearms

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Why is the committee targeting it's law-abiding residents, the law-abiding permit holders of Norwalk?

I am not a random person. I am an individual that has been approved to carry in public places by the Norwalk chief of police, after having completed the required steps, multiple background checks, and fees by Norwalk and the state.

Why is the Ordinance Committee claiming they need to do this in the name of "public safety"? Do you offer any proof that restricting gun possession for law-abiding citizens on town property would improve public safety? Has there been any incident that would account for the need of this proposal?

Does this proposal include sidewalks and streets? Or does this prevent permit holders from safely storing their firearm in their vehicle on town property?

Why are you limiting hunter's access to waterfowl hunting?

Why does the Ordinance Council want to waste taxpayers' dollars on "No Guns Allowed" signs?

--
M. Ponzio

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Donna
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Proposed changes to Chapter 38.4 of the City Code

Thank you for your email.

From: Donna <dsmirniotopoulos@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:17 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>; Livingston, Thomas P. <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>; Keegan, Tom <TKeegan@norwalkct.org>; Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>; Dominique Johnson <DJohnson@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed changes to Chapter 38.4 of the City Code

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Members of the Common Council Ordinance Committee,

I am writing today to ask that you table your vote on expanding section 38 of the City code to include a ban on hunting in City owned parks and a prohibition on firearms on all city property for the following reasons:

1. The language is vague.
2. The city owns a lot of property. Citizens are often unaware that they are on city property inside parking garages (Maritime and Yankee Doodle) and in parking lots.
3. Are sidewalks and streets included in this ban?
4. Prohibiting legally registered and permitted gun owners from transporting while on city property may be a violation of the Constitutional guarantees of the Second Amendment.
5. Without carefully wording this ordinance and vetting the constitutionality, the City will be setting itself up for lawsuits. The City currently spends millions of dollars every year on legal fees due to lawsuits either generated by the Law Department or brought against the city by aggrieved persons and entities.
6. Violation of the ordinance is a criminal act, which could result in loss of a gun permit.
7. The potential for non-objective persons to abuse this ordinance to revoke permits from legal gun owners exists and cannot be prevented. In other words, you would be codifying an ordinance with the potential to create retaliatory benefits to serve a political agenda or satisfy a personal grudge.
8. A person's chances of becoming a victim of violent crime are one in 10,000 in Weston. In Norwalk the chances are one in 353.

As a single woman who walks alone in South Norwalk and East Norwalk, revoking my right to carry a legally registered firearm potentially endangers me. The streets, sidewalks and parks I access are almost all city-owned property. Police carry firearms to defend themselves as much as to defend others. Members of the Ordinance Committee should know that depriving law-abiding citizens of their right to defend themselves jeopardizes our public safety.

I urge you to table the proposed amendments to Chapter 38 pending further review. The language must be thoroughly vetted and the case law reviewed. Attorney Candela made reference to a similar ordinance in Weston during your

October meeting. Weston is not Norwalk. A comparison with Weston is not meaningful given the extremely low crime statistics for Weston.

Respectfully,
Donna Smirniotopoulos

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Peter Kinseley
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun control

Thank ou for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Peter Kinseley <pkinsele@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:17 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun control

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

There is a gun issue in this country, most other countries do not have an open gun law.
Stop guns from being able to be part of our overall culture in the USA.
I support the legislation to stop guns in Norwalk's Parks and beaches,

Sent from my iPad

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Tracy Barclay
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Tracy Barclay <tbarclay@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa,
As a resident of East Norwalk I truly hope you can help us keep city hall and public spaces gun-free. We have children who have been frightened by gunshots from hunters while standing at their bus stops in the past, and after Sandy Hook it has become a much greater fear. We do not need guns in public!!!
Thank you,
Tracy Barclay
Cove Ave

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Allison Constantine
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Allison Constantine <alliconstantine@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Council,

I am writing in support of an ordinance to allow the city to make rules regarding where guns are allowed in city owned property. As a gun owner, I believe in common sense regulations and don't think they are at odds with gun ownership.

Allison Cary

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:07 PM
To: ddarinzo@optonline.net
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun free zone ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: ddarinzo@optonline.net <ddarinzo@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun free zone ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Councilwoman Lisa Shanahan:

I am reaching out to you to let you know that I fully support a gun free zone at City Hall and Norwalk's parks and beaches.

Gun violence is a public health issue. Gun-free zones reduce the presence of guns in these areas, thereby eliminating the risk of unintentional firearm injuries due to recklessness, escalatory conflicts, or criminal activity.

While Police and certified guards can certainly be excluded from this ban, I believe that a gun free safe zone is essential for our community's safety and well-being.

Sincerely,
Debra D'Arinzo

Debra D'Arinzo
ddarinzo@optonline.net
203-856-6032

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:08 PM
To: galenwells
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance
Attachments: Re gun law

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Galen Wells <galenwells@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This email is to express my support for the gun ordinance now before the council.

Galen Wells
galenwells@gmail.com
Phone: 203 866-9045
Cell: 203 515-7410

Candela, Brian

From: Pia Oconnell <pgille7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa
Subject: Re gun law

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I support the gun law to make the suggested building in Norwalk gun free

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Pia Oconnell
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Re gun law

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: Pia Oconnell <pgille7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Re gun law

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I support the gun law to make the suggested building in Norwalk gun free

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:10 PM
To: T Duryea
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the committee.

From: T Duryea <tinaduryea@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:58 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my very strong support for a gun free zone at City Hall and Norwalk's parks and beaches.

I am actively involved in local government and the fact that people may be armed in City Hall is horrifying to me.

I am also someone who uses our parks and beaches and I do NOT want people hanging out in those places with guns...especially given that often times people have picnics there and drink. Guns and recreation should never be combined.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tina Duryea
6 Deane Court
Norwalk, CT 06853

--
T.L. Duryea
www.TLDuryea.com
IG: [@TLDuryea](#)
Twitter: [@TinaDuryea](#)

Please consider the environment before printing this email

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:13 PM
To: Roz McCarthy
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Free Zone

Thank you for your note. I will share it with the committee.

From: Roz McCarthy <rozmcc2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:53 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Free Zone

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,
As a long-time resident of Norwalk, I strongly support a gun-free zone at City Hall and our parks and beaches. All residents deserve to have safe recreation areas and government offices.
Thank you for your commitment to this issue,
Roz McCarthy

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:14 PM
To: lisa laible
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: gun ordinance

Thank you for your note. I will share it with the committee.

From: lisa laible <lal_rkl@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:48 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Lisa,

It hadn't crossed my mind that anyone would think of bringing a gun to a public place around here. I'm embarrassed to admit my naivete/ignorance at this prospect here in Connecticut, as i assumed it was illegal. I guess i was being idealistic(?!) in these politically turbulent times.

I am adamantly anti-gun, and therefore I very strongly support an ordinance prohibiting carrying guns (of any kind) in any public place in Norwalk or its surroundings.

Thank you so much for all you do on our behalf, Lisa.

Most sincerely,

Lisa Laible

film
fine art photography
by lisa laible
203.856.9355

<http://film-fineartphotography.blogspot.com>
<https://www.lisalaible.com>

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:14 PM
To: spoontitle
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. I will share it with the committee.

From: spoontitle <spoontitle@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,
I support a gun free zone at Norwalk City Hall, its parks and beaches too. Only qualified security personnel and police officers should have guns on them while on duty at any of the City of Norwalk properties.

Michael Witherspoon

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Seymour Family
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. I will share it with the committee.

From: Seymour Family <symrfamily@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:40 AM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

We are writing in support of the Norwalk Common Council Ordinance Committee is proposing an ordinance to provide the City of Norwalk with the authority to make our City premises, beaches and park lands gun free. As residents of Rowayton for over two years, we believe in the safety of all citizens enjoying public spaces.

Please consider this important measure, thank you! Jane and Paul Seymour

--

The Seymours
202 Rowayton Avenue
Rowayton, CT 06853

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Robert Townes
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your note. We will share it with the committee

From: Robert Townes <robert@steppingstonesmuseum.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Councilwoman Shanahan -

I am submitting this letter on behalf of Stepping Stones Museum for Children and Rhonda Kiest, the museum's President and Chief Executive Officer.

Best regards,
Robert

Robert Townes
Director of Public Affairs
Stepping Stones Museum for Children
Mathews Park, 303 West Avenue
Norwalk, Connecticut 06850
203 899 0606, ext. 262
Visit today! <http://www.steppingstonesmuseum.org/>



Candela, Brian

From: spoontitle@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

You're welcome Lisa.

Michael L. Witherspoon, Esq.
Law Office of Michael L. Witherspoon, LLC
50 Washington Street, Suite 741
Norwalk, CT 06854
Tel. #: 203-354-4581
Fax #: 203-956-2140

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-----Original Message-----

From: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
To: spoontitle <spoontitle@aol.com>
Cc: Candela, Brian <bcandela@norwalkct.org>
Sent: Tue, Nov 17, 2020 5:14 pm
Subject: Re: Gun Ordinance

Thank you for your email. I will share it with the committee.

From: spoontitle <spoontitle@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi Lisa,
I support a gun free zone at Norwalk City Hall, its parks and beaches too. Only qualified security personnel and police officers should have guns on them while on duty at any of the City of Norwalk properties.

Michael Witherspoon

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Candela, Brian

From: Jamie Marasco <jamie@jmarascohvac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:47 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Gun carry ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian
I want to express how strongly I feel about your motion to ban legal carry of a firearm on public property. I feel that this goes against our rite to carry and possess firearms. Our local police department signed off on my permit to carry firearms over 25 years ago. Taking that away from a law abiding, Life Norwalk resident I feel is attacking my rights. I hate to say this but I only feel I need to carry on Norwalk's public property and not private property. Maybe you should step up the police presence in these areas?? I really hope this doesn't happen because you may loose another tax paying citizen.
Jamie Marasco

Candela, Brian

From: nicknt855 <nicknt855@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 6:22 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Norwalk ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hi, my name is Nick Topilnycky, sorry for the late reply but I got this email on the later side. I read about the Norwalk ordinance as being propose and highly oppose this. This ordinance will only affect law abiding citizens as the criminals do not care about following the law in the first place. This will directly impact my right to defend myself and or my family and friends. A simple analogy for the lawmakers, most drugs are illegal and yet we still have an issue with people taking them. I would ask the people who are proposing this bill exactly how I am supposed to protect myself if I am presented with a criminal who pulls out a firearm or a knife on me and threatens my life. Let's enforce the laws are on the books 1st since there is absolutely no evidence that a law like this would help at all and it violates everyone's rights that are guaranteed by The constitution . Thank you.

Nick Topilnycky
203.979.7357

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 6:48 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: This didn't go thru yesterday!Fwd: Gun Safety

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

another letter by 7.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kay Anderson <kaya06851@gmail.com>
Date: November 16, 2020 at 11:52:10 AM EST
To: lshanahan@norwalkct.com
Subject: Gun Safety

Please excuse the brevity - we again are without power - perhaps Ordinance should consider holding Eversource accountable to city residents next?

Councilperson Lisa Shanahan
Ordinance Committee, City of Norwalk

Dear Chair Shanahan:

I write to thank you and the Ordinance Committee for having the foresight to review gun safety ordinances the City has — and has not — passed. The courage to address and correct an oversight — which the Committee identified as no law prohibiting carrying guns in City Hall nor City parks — is not only admirable but a necessary act to provide workplace and public safety.

I wholeheartedly support the bill your committee proposed to address this lapse.

Thank you again for putting the welfare of those who work and all who enjoy our City facilities first.

Sincerely,
Kay Anderson
9 Toilsome Avenue
Norwalk CT
06851

Kay Anderson
Kaya06851@gmail.com
203-847-2301
917-562-7741

Candela, Brian

From: Alan Kibbe <akibbe@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:05 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fwd: Chapter 38, Article 1
Attachments: SB-7, Testimony, 02-04-2019.pdf

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

FYI & Record

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Alan Kibbe <akibbe@att.net>
Date: Tue, Nov 17, 2020 at 4:04 PM
Subject: Chapter 38, Article 1
To: Barbara Smyth <bsmyth@norwalkct.org>, Dave Heuvelman <DHEUVELMAN@norwalkct.org>, Dominique Johnson <DJOHNSON@norwalkct.org>, Kadeem Roberts <KROBERTS@norwalkct.org>, Lisa Shanahan <LSHANAHAN@norwalkct.org>, Manny Langella <MLANGELLA@norwalkct.org>, Nick Sacchinelli <NPSACCHINELLI@norwalkct.org>, Thomas P. Livingston <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>, Tom Keegan <TKEEGAN@norwalkct.org>

I appreciate the time and effort you folks put in for your work on the Council. I sit on the Norwalk Harbor Management Commission, however the following is offered only as the thoughts of an ordinary, non-hunting, citizen.

I want to ask that you do not create any hardship for waterfowl hunters at Calf Pasture and Vet's Parks. These are licensed, well-trained citizen sportsmen who pursue their outdoor passion in our harbor and require access to state-permitted hunting areas. They should be able to carry unloaded firearms from their cars to their boats or hunting areas at both parks.

Waterfowl hunting has been going on at these locations for a very long time. When this came up in testimony with regard to SB-7 which was to ban hunting at both sites, I challenged anyone to provide information showing evidence of injury, death, or property damage at these locations any time since the 17th Century. None was produced. I have concluded that this is, therefore, a pretty darn safe activity.

The waterfowl hunting season is roughly from November through February. The Chief and Mayor have said that these parks are heavily used during these months. That just has not been my experience. I find it pretty deserted.

I understand that some folks are terrified by the sight of a weapon. Education would help allay their anxiety. I do not believe it is fair to diminish the activities of responsible sportsmen to satisfy others' anxieties.

We need to keep our eyes on the common goal which, I believe, is to prevent injury and not to protect us from our fears and emotions. Let's face it, there is little these ordinances can do to prevent a determined lunatic from causing mayhem anywhere in our city.

Hunting has also been an important part of our New England history and I hope that it can continue in Norwalk.

I have attached my testimony regarding SB-7 FYI.

Thanks for reading.

--

Alan Kibbe
Norwalk Harbor Management Commission
1 Singing Woods Rd
Norwalk, CT 06850
C: 203 952-5166

--

Alan Kibbe
1 Singing Woods Rd
Norwalk, CT 06850
C: 203 952-5166

Alan L. Kibbe
One Singing Woods Road
Norwalk, CT 06850-1225
akibbe@att.net H: 203 846-4182 C: 203 952-5166

**Testimony Regarding SB – 7,
An Act Establishing Calf Pasture Beach in Norwalk as a Wildlife Refuge.**

I have been a resident of Norwalk for 37 years.

I was unable to respond to the Environment Committee prior to your February 4th hearing because I was out-of-state on vacation for the week prior to and of the hearing. I was unaware that I could testify electronically.

I am, first-of-all, disappointed that this proposed bill has not been presented or discussed with those affected in Norwalk prior to coming before your Committee.

I am OPPOSED to this bill. Hunting of all types is *already* very well-regulated in Connecticut by our DEEP. The DEEP provides training programs for young hunters. State statutes make provision for hunters with disabilities. The DEEP provides instructions for hunters on how to properly behave if they are harassed and how to report harassment incidents. Hunting is part of our tradition and a state-recognized sport enjoyed by many of our citizens. It is a way to put extra food on the table for some Norwalk families. Well-regulated hunting helps the DEEP with the conservation and management of wildlife.

The waterfowl hunting season, the activity which SB-7 is attempting to eliminate, is generally one week in October and from mid-November through mid-February. Calf Pasture Beach (CPB) is accessible to the public during this season, however very little activity takes place during these months.

When I asked Senator Duff for information on injuries, deaths, and property damage due to waterfowl hunting at CPB, he replied that he had no information on that. Perhaps there have been no incidents. Clearly this issue has not been adequately researched by the bill's sponsors.

I read Senator Duff's written testimony from the February 4th hearing. He states that, "The beach is now located in the middle of a residential neighborhood." Perhaps Senator Duff's staff is confused about the location of CPB, but this park is NOT even close to a residential neighborhood. I encourage the Committee to view the CPB site on Google Maps and not be misled by Senator Duff's inaccurate and misleading testimony.

This park is a peninsula, almost completely surrounded by water. It connects to the mainland by a narrow neck of land. It is bounded on the West and North by a very large, full-service commercial marina; To the Northeast by a vast open meadow known as Taylor Farm which is used as a dog park, for events, and for overflow parking; And to the East by Norwalk's Shady Beach. NO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY borders CPB. The only residential properties even visible from some parts of CPB is a row of 9 gated waterfront estates and the State's Martin House Group Home on Canfield Drive.

The nearest school bus stop is about 3/8 of a mile north of the entrance to CPB at Calf Pasture Beach Rd and Island Drive. The Norwalk Transit District maintains public service to CPB on weekends. A shuttle operates Sundays during the summer months.

Candela, Brian

From: Lulu <lalulu14@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 12:19 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: I OPPOSE NORWALK'S PROPOSED BAN ON FIREARMS ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY AND FACILITIES

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Brian,

I understand and oppose Norwalk Ordinance Committee for trying to ban firearms ban on city owned, property and facilities including parks beaches, recreational facilities and muni parking lots. I wonder if this will include sidewalks and streets.

This affects my right to defend myself and infringes on my second amendment rights.

I am a law-abiding permit holder.

After having an incident, I worked hard to get my gun license, train properly and learn how to defend myself.

I went through the proper background checks and all the required steps to have a gun permit.

What part of public safety is served if we cannot defend ourselves from criminals? (As I have had to do myself).

Loren Morrissey

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:43 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Guns on Norwalk Public Property - NO

From: Kara Baekey <karanb23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Guns on Norwalk Public Property - NO

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

November 17, 2020

Norwalk Common Council
123 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Council Members:

I am writing in strong support of a ban on guns on public property in Norwalk.

While we in CT enjoy some of the strongest gun safety laws in the country, there is still more that can be done to make our communities safer. As we know, CT allows open and concealed carry of handguns for permitted gun owners.

On the topic of open carry, there is research that shows that it can increase the likelihood of conflict, severely endangering public safety.

Researchers have suggested that the **presence of visible firearms may alter behavior and increase aggressive and violent behaviors.**¹

Multiple studies show that **restrictions on the carrying of concealed weapons can increase public safety.** For example, recent analyses have shown that states with weak standards for concealed carry have higher rates of violent crime² and gun homicides³ than would be expected if the states had stricter standards for public carry.

On the topic of concealed carry, it is my feeling that citizens that carry concealed weapons have a Super Hero complex. That is, they believe that there will be some kind of an altercation whereby they will "need" to draw and fire a weapon in self-defense or of others that they deem to be "good guys." It is my opinion that we should leave the decision to use deadly force to those who are properly trained in assessing tenuous situations, specifically those in law enforcement and the military.

Carrying a gun in public is a tremendous responsibility, and accidents happen every day. We in Norwalk deserve to have our public safety protected by not allowing for guns on public property, permit or no permit.

Please enact this ban.

Thank you,

Kara Nelson Baekey
Founder Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America CT Chapter
69 Melbourne Road
Norwalk, CT 06851

Refs 1, 2, 3 - See <https://giffords.org/lawcenter/gun-laws/policy-areas/guns-in-public/open-carry/>

~~*~*~*~ Kara Nelson Baekey ~*~*~*~**

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Proposed gun ban ordinance

From: John Nelson <john.nelson9630@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:59 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Proposed gun ban ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

November 17, 2020

Norwalk Common Council
123 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Council Members:

I am writing in strong support of a ban on guns on public property.

I have personal experience. I attended a Moms Demand Action rally on that lawn at the rear of City Hall a couple of years ago with my two young grandchildren and noticed a man lurking at the back of the crowd with a holstered pistol at his hip that he was sort of showing off. I was alarmed and concerned that he might try something crazy as a counter to this event. My daughter was a speaker along with high profile politicians.

I saw a policeman a few spaces over (turned out to be the Chief) and asked him if he had noticed the person and his gun. He said yes, that was a man he thought was from Hartford and who was a gun rights advocate. I asked if he could at least ask the man for ID and a gun permit. He said no, existing law did not allow him to even ask for permit, but he was there to protect us and he was keeping an eye on him.

I mentioned this later to Senator Duff (also at the rally) who asked me to write a letter to him (which I did) as it was a loophole (not being able to ask for a permit) that he wanted to close. I am not completely certain, but I believe this was successfully achieved.

Guns have no place in public places, permit or no permit.

Please enact this ban!

John Nelson
597 Westport Avenue
C-356
Norwalk, CT 06851.

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Gun Ordinance

From: Katharine Gallo <katie.gallo624@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 11:53 AM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I am writing to express my support for gun-free parks and city public spaces.

Katharine Gallo

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Gun Ban Ordinance

From: Jennifer Wadehra <wadehra@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: Gun Ban Ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Attn: Norwalk Common Council
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Norwalk CT Common Council,

I am writing to convey my full support of the Norwalk gun ban ordinance in city facilities. I support this statute to apply to all city "owned or leased property or facility, including any park, beach or any other recreational property or facility and giving the city authority to post signs and ban guns from all city facilities.

Thank You.

Jennifer Wadehra
Silvermine
Kings Lane, Wilton CT

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: 2nd amendment

From: Joe Cote <joecote2011@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: 2nd amendment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

You guys should focus your time and energy on things that actually matter. Like all the ILLEGAL guns, all the scum on welfare , all the construction around our shitty city, how Norwalk school system Is rated top 20 lowest in the state, the traffic, the high taxes, the back door deals , .. I will always conceal my handgun legally no matter what bullshit petition you send around. You libtards wonder why everyone is fleeing this city and heard to trumbull, Shelton, Monroe , etc.

Norwalk was once a great city. Now it's filled w 40 percent renters, nothing but more apartments going up. Norwalk is a shithole I'm ashamed to have grown up here. My days here are numbered. Clowns.

Joe Cote

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: 2nd amendment

From: Joe Cote <joecote2011@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 6:29 PM
To: Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
Subject: 2nd amendment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I will always conceal carry legally in all beaches and parks no matter what bullshit petition you liberal scumbags pass around. Worry about the low life's dealing drugs and collecting welfare rather than who legally carries a gun safely. Put your time elsewhere. I remember I time Norwalk was a great city. You dems ruined it! That's why everyone is leaving for Trumbull , Shelton , etc.

Joe Cote

Sent from my iPhone

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Cc: Shanahan, Lisa
Subject: Fw: Gun Safety

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

This comes from someone who sent something yesterday but it did not go through until today apparently.

From: Kay Anderson <kaya06851@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Subject: Fwd: Gun Safety

Here it is - wasn't delivered but I wasn't notified until this afternoon....
K

Kay Anderson
Kaya06851@gmail.com
203-847-2301
917-562-7741

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kay Anderson <kaya06851@gmail.com>
Date: November 17, 2020 at 6:45:09 PM EST
To: lshanahan@norwalkct.com
Subject: Fwd: Gun Safety

Just got a notice that this was not delivered yesterday! so sorry ~ Kay

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kay Anderson** <kaya06851@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 16, 2020 at 11:52 AM
Subject: Gun Safety
To: <lshanahan@norwalkct.com>

Please excuse the brevity - we again are without power - perhaps Ordinance should consider holding Eversource accountable to city residents next?

Councilperson Lisa Shanahan
Ordinance Committee, City of Norwalk

Dear Chair Shanahan:

I write to thank you and the Ordinance Committee for having the foresight to review gun safety ordinances the City has — and has not — passed. The courage to address and correct an oversight — which the Committee identified as no law prohibiting carrying guns in City Hall nor City parks — is not only admirable but a necessary act to provide workplace and public safety.

I wholeheartedly support the bill your committee proposed to address this lapse.

Thank you again for putting the welfare of those who work and all who enjoy our City facilities first.

Sincerely,
Kay Anderson
9 Toilsome Avenue
Norwalk CT
06851

Kay Anderson
Kaya06851@gmail.com
203-847-2301
917-562-7741

--

Kay Anderson
203 847 2301 - home
917 562 7741 - cell

Candela, Brian

From: John G <john.goroff@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fire Arms Ban

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Your Presidential Candidate has not even gotten into office yet and you are pandering to the extreme left with your new proposal. We as Americans, protected by our Constitution, we will fight you to the bitter end! Remember- the same people who are currently calling for unity will be the first to set this beautiful country on fire if the election is reversed.
Sincerely - John Goroff an American Patriot

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: gun ordinance

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

From: Dani SNOW <dani_snow@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Andrea Gottlieb <ahgottlieb@gmail.com>; Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Subject: Re: gun ordinance

I am in favor of keeping a gun free Norwalk City Hall, parklands and especially our beaches, that are a family meeting point almost year round.

We must provide and healthy and safe areas for all our residents.

Best,

Dani Snow

On Nov 17, 2020, at 12:14 PM, Andrea Gottlieb <ahgottlieb@gmail.com> wrote:

Pls send a quick email before 3 if you agree!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lisa Shanahan** <lisashan@msn.com>
Date: Tue, Nov 17, 2020 at 7:17 AM
Subject: gun ordinance
To: Andrea Gottlieb <ahgottlieb@gmail.com>

Andrea...

How do the Green Team moms feel about guns in City Hall and on town beaches and parks?

I chair the Ordinance Committee and we are considering an ordinance that would make City Hall and our parklands gun free. The gun lobby has come out in force against the ordinance. People who support keeping City Hall and parks/beaches gun free could send me a short email to that effect at lshanahan@norwalkct.org by 3 today and their notes could be read into the record.

I will send you the story from the Norwalk Hour.

Thank you!

Lisa Shanahan, lisashan@msn.com

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art direction
graphic design

6 thomes street
rowayton, CT 06853

usa +1.347.614.7976
dani_snow@mac.com
www.danisnow.com

Candela, Brian

From: Lisa Shanahan <lisashan@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 8:08 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: Email - not sure who to send it to

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

From: nora king <nora@norakingandco.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 4:45 PM
To: lisashan@msn.com <lisashan@msn.com>
Subject: Email - not sure who to send it to

Councilwoman Lisa Shanahan

Norwalk can lead the way for gun safety on certain public properties and I fully support a gun free zone for all civilian personnel who have the privilege of using Norwalk's Parks, beaches and City Hall. Garages should never be part of this ordinance in my opinion because people have the right in this country to be able to carry arms legally.

Gun violence is a national hazard and is classified as a huge health issue. I however am a big believer in police officers at our schools and feel strong they are a necessary and most children and parents want our community police officers. I don't want the ordinance to be used ever to take the right of police to carry guns on school properties.

I also believe that the geese and ducks are a big issue at city parks and do not want to use this ordinance to stop the ability to remove geese from our ball parks and parks.

While Police and certified guards should 100 percent be excluded from this ban, I believe that a gun free safe zone at city hall and our parks are in the best interest of the community.

Sincerely,

Nora King
17 Covewood Drive
Norwalk, CT
203 866 6777

Regards,

Nora



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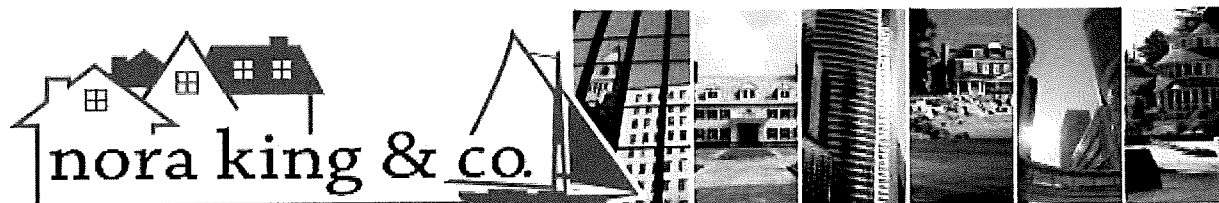
[Click the link to see more](#)

nora king and co., llc
17 covewood drive
rowayton, ct 06853
www.norakingandco.com

nora@norakingandco.com



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203-952-8413 cell
203-866-1997 fax



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Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Fw: firearms

From: MOELING <jmoeling@optonline.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 9:45 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: firearms

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I believe the City should control firearms on and in its owned properties.
As I read it, the 2nd Amendment protects "keeping and bearing of arms" but does not specify *where* they may be "kept and borne". I support the Amendment but I do not permit carrying firearms in my home or other property. I think property owners are not forbidden by the Constitution to "well regulate" firearms. Thanks for listening. -- John Moeling

Candela, Brian

From: Shanahan, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:12 AM
To: MOELING
Cc: Candela, Brian
Subject: Re: firearms

Thank you for your comments, JOhn. We will share them with the committee. Hapoy thanksgiving to you and your famliy.

From: MOELING <jmoeling@optonline.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 9:45 AM
To: Shanahan, Lisa <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>
Subject: firearms

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I believe the City should control firearms on and in its owned properties.
As I read it, the 2nd Amendment protects "keeping and bearing of arms" but does not specify *where* they may be "kept and borne". I support the Amendment but I do not permit carrying firearms in my home or other property. I think property owners are not forbidden by the Constitution to "well regulate" firearms. Thanks for listening. -- John Moeling

Candela, Brian

From: calvo.jorge2019@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 3:04 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Meeting Questions

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon Brian,

My name is Jorge Calvo, I am a Norwalk resident, and I am writing you regarding the proposal brought up regarding carrying of firearms on City Sidewalks, and or property.

My first issue is as listed below, I am interpreting the sidewalk to me to be part of the roadway, not the adjoining property. If the proposal was enacted, where would one acquire a list of city owned sidewalks?

Terms Used In Connecticut General Statutes 14-300c

Crosswalk: means that portion of a highway ordinarily included within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at intersections, or any portion of a highway distinctly indicated, by lines or other markings on the surface, as a crossing for pedestrians, except such prolonged or connecting lines from an alley across a street. See Connecticut General Statutes 14-297

The Second issue is, the city has it posted already where firearms are not allowed on city property (Buildings) "No Firearms beyond this point" – Was this proposal brought up because someone did not like what they saw and decided to enact an ordinance ?

I personally feel that the City Of Norwalk has more important issues than this. I look forward to your response.

Best—

Jorge A. Calvo
203-515-9679

Candela, Brian

From: Ch Fitton <cefitton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:53 PM
To: Candela, Brian
Subject: Public Comment Instructions

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Mr. Candela:

I left you a voice mail after speaking with Customer Service at City Hall. Below I copied and highlighted the section in question about participation in live comments. Where is the Public Participation link to register?

Thank you,
Chris

PUBLIC COMMENT Option 2: If you choose not to provide written comment in advance of the meeting, live comments will be permitted as part of the "public CITY OF NORWALK Norwalk City Hall 125 East Avenue, Room 202 Norwalk, CT 06851 Page 2 of 3 comment/participation" or "public hearing" portion of the meeting, as identified by the Chair. For live comments you will need to use the Public Participation URL link, which will allow you to register with your name and phone number for the meeting. Once you have registered, you will be able to enter and participate in the meeting. For land use meetings, public hearing items are specifically listed on the agenda. If you wish to speak to a listed public hearing item, please use the "Raise Your Hand" function in the Zoom platform. The host will call on you and unmute you so you can speak. Please state your name and address for the record before you begin. You will have three minutes to comment. For other public agency meetings, please use the "Raise Your Hand" function in the Zoom platform when the meeting begins. The host will then call on you and unmute you so you can speak. Please state your name and address for the record before you begin. You will have three minutes to comment. Only items that are on the agenda can be commented on. o TO WATCH THE MEETING ONLY (no live public

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

Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" will need to register in advance and 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 on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to view the meeting, but are not participating, can view a live stream on the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. This stream is delayed by approximately 20 seconds. Please find the information using the link above. The meeting recording and minutes will be posted on the City of Norwalk website within seven (7) days after the meeting.

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 read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Brian Candela at bcandela@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 17, 2020
BY VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Lisa Shanahan, Chair; David Heuvelman; Dominique Johnson;
Thomas Keegan; Manny Langella; Thomas Livingston;
Kadeem Roberts

STAFF: Brian Candela, Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Michael Church, Board of Ethics; Police Chief Kulhawik;
Nicholas Sacchinelli, Common Council member

1. ROLL CALL

Ms. Shanahan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and called the Roll as reflected above.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted. All speakers are Norwalk residents unless otherwise noted.

All comments are related to Chapter 38, Article 1, Sections 38-1, 38-2, 38-3, 38-4, 38-5 and 38-6. In addition, all letters submitted to the Committee will be attached to the minutes on the City's website.

Mr. Benjamin Neils read a letter in opposition.

Mr. Chris Fisher spoke in opposition. He said that he is a licensed gun owner and this Ordinance unnecessary. There is no need for it. He said he is an avid patriot, and his Constitutional right is being infringed upon. He asked why the City is looking for this and that criminals will go ahead as they intend to do. This is a solution looking for a problem. Mr. Fisher asked the Committee to abandon this proposal or table it until Covid restrictions are over.

Ms. Malory Stevens said this is a huge infringement on the Second amendment. She said that she is legally licensed to carry. This Ordinance will punish law abiding citizens. She said she realizes that the polices are purposely vague but had questions. Ms. Stevens said that in the current climate, this is about keeping Constitutional rights. She said that she understood the ban in public buildings. She asked the Committee to take into consideration the people who do the right thing.

Ms. Donna Smirniotopolos said she submitted a letter to the Committee earlier asking the Committee to table the Ordinance and amend it for further review.

Ms. Shanahan announced that the Committee would be tabling the item this evening.

Mr. Peter Choi read a letter he sent to the Committee voicing his disappointment of the proposed Ordinance. He said he has had harrowing experiences with coyotes and is a law abiding citizen. He said that he does not believe there is a gun issue that needs to be resolved. Mr. Choi said that this ban will turn responsible residents into criminals.

Mr. Greg Helmes said he was angry such a matter would be considered. He said this is taking advantage of the public's inability to come together. He asked if his property tax will be reduced since he will not be able to use his firearm or take trash to the transfer station. He said this Ordinance violates his Constitutional right to protect himself. He asked the Committee if they believed criminals will follow the law. He said that law abiding gun owners are not the ones killing anyone with a gun. Mr. Helmes said that as a taxpaying citizen he would be unable to attend various City owned properties. He said that the Committee conveniently ignore the risk that is there and that law abiding citizens

will comply, but the criminals will not. He said he has a license to carry, but this would make him a criminal.

Mr. John Romano said he is a proud licensed gun owner. He said that over 40 years ago they did an FBI background check and they do that now. He said he has been duly licensed for business purposes. These are very difficult times. Mr. Romano said he does not want to see the innocent punished for political games. He said there is no cause or issue that needs this type of Ordinance.

Mr. Christopher Farraro said he is a member of the CDL and NRA and that he is a law abiding Citizen, but this makes him want to leave and go where they treat gun owners with respect. He said he pays his taxes. He said that he is not happy with the Norwalk Police and that they should go after the criminals and not the people who are licensed.

Mr. Neil Ferry said he has a permit to carry and agrees with the Second Amendment. He said that two Common Council members brought up issues that need to be addressed – false arrest and parking lots and if this will become a felony charge if someone does not know they are on City property. He said that this will bring law suits up to the Supreme Court. He asked if the law passes if it can be made reasonably fair. Mr. Ferry said he read that the reason this is taking place is to make resident feel safe. He said that if you want to feel safe, you should look at the school at Sandy Hook and all of the safety features that were put into place. He said that it would not be a good idea to post gun free zone signs in South Norwalk. He said that this is a problem waiting to occur.

Dr. Walt Cupson, Middlebury, CT said that he is a pistol permit holder since 2006. He said that he is a physician, father and husband and that he believes in defending himself. He said that if he visits Norwalk, he will have no idea where he can carry his firearm, if this Ordinance is passed. He said that criminals are going to do what they want to do. He said that if he visits Norwalk and leaves his firearm at home, that will make himself a victim.

Mr. Christopher Zens said that he is a water fowl hunter. He explained that the issue at Calf Pasture Beach is that you are not hunting on City property, but below the high tide mark. He said that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection essential shut down hunting at Calf Pasture Beach. He said that his biggest concern is access to the Norwalk boat launch. He said the hunters transport unloaded firearms through town property at the boat launch to get to the islands. Access to the launch is paramount. The way this Ordinance is written could shut down access to the launch. He said access to the launch is needed to get out to the islands safely.

Mr. Michal Miller read a letter he submitted to the Committee expressing his opposition to the Ordinance. He strongly encouraged the Committee to dismiss the Ordinance.

Ms. Jennifer Balliet spoke in support of the Ordinance and said she wants to feel safe . She said she has family members who are responsible gun owners who do not feel the

need to carry at the beach. She said that our Police Officers are not allowed to ask a person to see their permit.

Mr. Jonathan Walsh said he is an X-EMT and said there are people who do not have the level of security he has. He said he has a pistol permit and feels safe because he takes his own safety in his own hands. Mr. Walsh said that in all his years living in Norwalk he has never seen anyone brandishing a weapon. He said that as an EMT, it is most important that people like him are not cast as felons. He said that criminals will not speak up tonight. The criminals are not the ones who are and will not speak up.

Ms. Meaghan McNeil said that as an ENNA Board Member, and as a matter of process, the public was not made aware of this meeting. She said the outreach is not satisfactory. As a private citizen she said she sent an e-mail, but wanted to add a statement on the diversity of gun owners. She said they are law abiding citizens and this Ordinance tells them that the City does not want them here.

Mr. Julian Polette read a letter he submitted to the Committee in opposition to the Ordinance. He said this law gives people a false sense of security. The average Cop is less proficient with their firearm than a licensed carrier. He asked the Committee to reconsider this ruling that will harm the innocent.

Mr. Marshall Helenbech said he submitted a letter to the Committee. He said the issue is about waterfowl hunting, but this Ordinance seems to be broadly applied to everyone. He said he does not see the impetus for this. He said this is turning law abiding citizens into criminals. He said this proposal is overreaching and does not make sense.

Ms. Olivia Doherty said she is a licensed to carry a firearm and uses it at the range. She said she heard about this Ordinance and was shaken up. She said rights are being eroded and carriers are in jeopardy. She said she did not know how many are licensed to carry. She said she was disheartened to listen to a panel who is going to rule on this who have great depth of misunderstanding. Ms. Doherty said she was bothered by this because it is overreaching and the public did not know this was going on. She said she hoped the Committee would do their research because they do not understand what this means. She said the criminals do not care about law. Murder is against the law, but criminals are going to do it by any means.

Mr. William Hampton said he submitted a letter to the Committee in opposition to the Ordinance. He said this proposal was against the Constitution. He said that outside of Federal properties and schools, residents should be able to carry their firearms. He asked the Committee to do away with the proposal and that the Committee members take a gun safety class.

Ms. Shanahan said 250 e-mails were received. Mr. Candela said that each letter will be attached to the minutes and will be available on the website.

Ms. Shanahan asked Mr. Candela to read some of the letters submitted.

Mr. Candela read a letter from Mr. Tony Lopez in opposition to the Ordinance. He said he is an avid outdoorsman and that the wording is far too vague. He said he cares about the law, but the same cannot be said of those who wish to do harm to others.

Ms. Shanahan said they received a lot of letters in favor of the Ordinance and asked Mr. Candela to read some, to be fair.

Mr. Candela read the following letters:

Ms. Mallory Sargent said she applauded this effort because it is important to keep the municipal employees safe.

Ms. Isabel Hunter said she frequents the recreational spaces in the City.

Ms. Clair Schoen said there is no reason for anyone to be armed. She also said she was in favor of extending the ban on water fowl hunting.

Mr. Kevin said this will not solve the problem, but is an important step in the right direction.

Mr. Candela said there were many more letters and they will be attached to the minutes.

2. PUBLIC HEARING (possible action on)

Ms. Shanahan thanked the public for their comments. She said that given the volume of letters received, it was not possible to read all the letters into the record. She said the Committee will not take a vote tonight.

3. PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION

Ms. Shanahan said that there are a few misunderstandings about this Ordinance. She explained that there would be no limit on access for hunters. The Ordinance does not ban guns on streets, sidewalks and municipal garages. She said the Ordinance is trying to make it clear which buildings will be covered under this Ordinance. They do not want to require the City to spend money on signage.

Ms. Shanahan explained that this Committee was charged with looking at the Ordinance. This Ordinance would codify the Parks and Recreation rules that exist.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

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Mr. Candela said he would make the corrections to the minutes.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS AMENDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A SHOW OF HANDS**

6. OLD BUSINESS

- Discuss and vote on Code of Ethics Section 32-4 – Conflicts of Interests; interference with duties; prohibited interests; exceptions.

Ms. Shanahan said this Committee reviewed this item last month and sent it to the Board of Ethics for their review and comments.

Mr. Candela said the only question from the Board of Ethics was in 32-4-E. They had two small points and made a grammatical change.

**** MR. HEUVELMAN MOVED THIS ITEM AS AMENDED TO A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A SHOW OF HANDS**

Mr. Church thanked the members of the Ordinance Committee. Mr. Candela said that if and when 32-4 is approved, that will allow the Board of Ethics to complete the Citizen's Guide. Once it has been completed, it will be on the City's website.

- Discuss and vote on Chapter 38, Article 1, Sections 38-1, 38-2, 38-3, 38-4, 38-5 and 38-6.

The Committee members discussed the various sections in the Ordinance. Mr. Candela said it is clear as it pertains to the sale of firearms and hunting. The State has the sole jurisdiction in Connecticut. He said he reached out to the DEEP for guidance and they made some recommendations. One of the changes they made was in 32-2-B (firearms). Mr. Candela recommended forwarding any new language to the DEEP for their comments and guidance especially when dealing with an area where they have jurisdiction. He said they were specific about what City properties they propose to make gun free.

Ms. Shanahan noted that all City department heads were consulted, including the Police Chief and they understand there are laws that do not permit guns. Mr. Candela offered to send a link of municipal ordinances to the Committee members.

Mr. Livingston said it is not their intent to penalize law abiding citizens. Mr. Candela said that when he conducted his research he tried to see if this was something the law allowed. He said he did not have the opportunity to look at how other municipalities handle potential penalties or what they are, if any.

Mr. Keegan asked Mr. Candela if anyone challenged the Ordinance. Mr. Candela said there was a challenge in New Haven over the sale of guns. He said that after this meeting, he will conduct research on this.

Mr. Keegan said that Mr. Candela indicated that the municipal ordinance regarding hunting may be superseded by State law. He asked if that would be the case here. Mr. Candela read a letter from the DEEP's assessment and said that the City can prohibit hunting on City property, but they retain domain over State property. Mr. Candela will forward the letter.

Mr. Keegan asked what the Committee was trying to do and what is their legislative intent. He said that he heard from the Police Chief that there is no problem. Ms. Shanahan said they should thank the gun owners for honoring the rules but said they do need an Ordinance to underpin this. She said she did not think it was appropriate to leave these rules in the air.

Mr. Livingston said that City Hall and other buildings had this rule for seven years. The point is people are saying the Committee needs a problem to enact this Ordinance and that is irresponsible.

Mr. Langella thanked the public for their e-mails and calls. He said this is a difficult Ordinance. He noted that he is a concealed carrier. He said that this Ordinance has quickly evolved from being a water fowl hunting ban to this. He said that this Ordinance is hard to support, when he hears the Chief of Police validate there are no complaints. Mr. Langella said he is concerned about the penalties for gun owners. He said this opens the City up to financial risk during a time with reduced tax revenue. Mr. Candela noted that as a City they can't control if someone decided to file a lawsuit against the City.

Mr. Heuvelman said this is an interesting place to be. He noted that he is also a permit holder. He expressed appreciation for all who came out to speak and for the 250 letters that were submitted. He said it is clear that State parks are gun free unless designated by the DEEP. He said that for the City to extend this to the City parks seems to be a natural extension. Mr. Heuvelman said there are people who feel unsafe and some who are upset with the idea that people could be at a park with guns.

Mr. Heuvelman said it struck him as odd to carry in a City park, but if someone perceives his dog as a threat at the park that could spark a situation. He said that he is a proponent of this Ordinance, but wants to be sure it serves everyone. He said he finds it hard to allow anyone to carry into City buildings. He said he went through an extensive process to get a concealed permit. The training side is a question of what you put into it. He said that the Police spend every day in that environment with these tools. He said he does not trust a private citizen to have the same amount of training and that gives him pause.

Mr. Roberts expressed this thanks to all who provided comments and e-mails. He asked those listening to know that there are licensed people on the Committee and they know the concept of safety. He said he was very happy the Committee was going to table this item because it is important to get more information. He noted that people come from different places and hunt to feed their families. He said that he realized that a person said to not make this an issue where there is none and that comment stuck with him.

Ms. Johnson asked Chief Kulhawik if there would be instances where having this Ordinance would help the Norwalk Police or hinder them. Chief Kulhawik said that generally, they would not know if someone had a firearm that was prohibited. Ms. Johnson said she was not surprised by the outcry from both sides. She said she was glad to see further research being done to be sure the decision is well thought out.

Ms. Johnson said that she heard from residents who attended protests and rallies that they were intimidated when they were exercising their First Amendment rights and saw people brandishing weapons. She said that when attending marches and sees weapons that are not on a Police Officer it is intimidating. She noted that this Ordinance clarifies the guidelines that have been in place.

Mr. Livingston asked Chief Kulhawik for a definition of brandishing. Chief Kulhawik said that brandishing is done in a threatening manner. He said that he has not seen that. He said that a few years ago, there was an anti-gun rally outside of City Hall and several people were openly carrying firearms. It was disconcerting to the people, but it was not illegal. He said that if firearms are not permitted on City Hall property they would have been able to ask them to leave and that would have been helpful.

Mr. Sacchinelli thanked Ms. Shanahan and the Committee for taking his comments seriously. He said he is hearing a concern about public safety and would be willing to take this on at the Public Safety Committee.

**** MR. LANGELLA MOVED TO TABLE CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE 1,
SECTIONS 38-1, 38-2, 38-3, 38-4, 38-5 AND 38-6
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY A SHOW OF HANDS**

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

8. DISCUSSION ITEM

There was no discussion item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. ROBERTS MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTON PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services