

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Eloisa Melendez, Chair; Michael Corsello;
Thomas Livingston, Doug Hempstead;
Shannon O'Toole; Giandurco; Travis Simms

STAFF: Brian Candela, Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Donna King, City Clerk; Irene Dixon, Asst. City Clerk;
Lieutenant Art Weisgerber; Jennifer Bangser

1. ROLL CALL

Ms. Melendez called the meeting to order at 7:04PM and called the roll. A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC HEARING-
Norwalk Shorehaven Special Services Taxing District

**** MS. MELENDEZ OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:05PM.**

**** MS. MELENDEZ CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:10PM.**

No one from the public commented.

3. PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION

Ms. Melendez said that she received a phone call from a resident suggesting removing "Taxing" from the Norwalk Shorehaven Special Services Taxing District. Mr. Hempstead said that he agrees because they do not have the power to tax. Mr. Candela said that he will contact the Attorney for clarification.

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE NORWALK SHOREHAVEN SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was so public comment.

5 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

July 18, 2017

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**
**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH (5) FIVE IN FAVOR AND (1) ABSTENTION**
(MR. SIMMS)

6. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Solicitors

Ms. King said this is an issue that has an impact in many ways and that they are working with an ordinance that does not protect the public. She said there are a number of issues that they think are important including separating the food vendor from the solicitors

City of Norwalk
Ordinance Meeting
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2017
Page 2

permit because they are very different things and that currently it is all one permit, and suggested maxing out the number of food trucks . She discussed the current process and said that there is only a local City of Norwalk criminal background check done. Lieutenant Weisgerber said that the local background checks only cover any arrests and convictions within the City of Norwalk, and the way the current ordinance is written it does not allow them to do a fingerprint background check by the State or the FBI. Mr. Livingston asked what the cost is for the City to do the fingerprint checks and how long does it take. Lt. Weisgerber discussed the process and said that the fingerprints are mailed off to the State for a fee of \$50 and to the FBI for a fee of \$12 and it takes approximately six to eight weeks. He said from a safety point of view that we are licensing people to go door to door on resident's property and over the past three years over 93 licenses were issued and not one was a Norwalk resident and only half were residents of Connecticut. He also said that over the past three years there should have been \$9,300 collected for the 93 permits, and possibly \$4,600 for the background checks, but they were only able to collect \$1,500 and that the average for the city now is \$16.12 per permit. Mr. Corsello suggested an application fee of \$100 which will include the fingerprinting, and \$200 for the permit. Ms. Meledez asked Mr. Candela what can be done immediately Mr. Candela said his focus was on solicitors and asked the committee if they would want to charge companies one fee or multiple fees. Ms. Melendez said multiple fees. Mr. Livingston suggested charging per individual. There was discussion about the end date for a solicitor's license and it was decided that it should remain per calendar year. Mr. Candela also suggested reaching out to the Health Department to see what their requirements are for the food trucks because it may be helpful if the food trucks and solicitors will be separated out because those requirements may need to be added to the ordinance as well. Mr. Corsello suggested having the solicitors go to the Police Department to obtain the permit and the food trucks to the Health Department. There was further discussion and Mr. Livingston suggested that Mr. Candela work with the Police Department to revise the current soliciting ordinance with the changes that were discussed tonight and to where it makes sense, and to also make the process of obtaining a permit as easy for people as possible and have a review and discussion at the next Ordinance Committee meeting.

Arts Commission Bylaws

Mr. Livingston and Mr. Hempstead discussed some minor changes they would like to see. It was decided that the changes that were discussed would be given to Mr. Candela and he would insert them and make a final draft to be reviewed at the next Arts Commission meeting. Mr. Candela requested the finalized changes that are made at the next Arts Commission meeting be forwarded to him the following afternoon after they meet so that it can be included on the next Ordinance Committee meeting agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd

Telesco Secretarial Services