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Members of the public can use a telephone to call in, attend, listen and comment during the meeting. However, they will not be able to see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. For the current meeting, the **meeting ID is 828 7379 8981**, the **passcode is 377930** and the **call in number is 646-558-8656**. The information can also be found using the link above.



Upon written request not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting, a member of the public can request a physical location to attend this virtual meeting at City Hall. Such a member of the public will be provided access to a telephone so that they can attend the meeting in real time. The member of the public can call in, attend, listen and comment during the meeting. However, they will not be able to see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. For the current meeting, the **meeting ID is 828 7379 8981**, the **passcode is 377930** and the **call in number is 646-558-8656**. The information can also be found using the link above. A set of instructions will be left with the telephone for the member of the public to use in order to access the meeting.



Members of the public who wish to “view the meeting live” and/or “provide live comments” can use the Zoom meeting platform by going to www.norwalkct.org/meetings and clicking on the “View/Participate Live on Zoom” link that is on the line with the meeting date and time. 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.



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.

COMMON COUNCIL ORDINANCE COMMITTEE **REGULAR MEETING**

July 19, 2022

7:00 p.m. – By Videoconference and Teleconference

AGENDA

- 1. ROLL CALL:**
- 2. PUBLIC HEARING (possible action on):**
 - Discuss and vote on Chapter 17 (Aquifer Protection Agency), Section 1 (Designation; membership; technical training).
- 3. PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION:**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT:**
- 5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**
 - June 21, 2022 – regular meeting of the ordinance committee.
- 6. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - Discuss and vote on Cannabis ordinance.
- 7. NEW BUSINESS:**
- 8. DISCUSSION ITEM:**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT:**

Legal Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council Ordinance Committee will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. by way of videoconference/teleconference for the purpose of discussing and voting on Section 17-1. Please check the Ordinance Committee agenda for additional details and instructions about how to attend this Public Hearing by way of videoconference/teleconference. The Ordinance Committee agenda will be posted on the City website by July 15, 2022.

§ 17-1 Designation; membership; technical training.

- A. In accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-354a, et seq. the Planning and Zoning Commission is hereby designated as the "Aquifer Protection Agency" (hereinafter the "Agency") of the City of Norwalk.
- B. Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall serve coexisting terms on the Agency. The membership requirements of the Agency shall be the same as those of the Planning and Zoning Commission, including, but not limited to, the number of members, terms, method of selection and removal of members, and filling of vacancies.
- C. At least one member of the Agency or staff of the Agency shall complete the course in technical training formulated by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-354v.

Dated at Norwalk, Connecticut this _____ day of June 2022.

ATTEST: _____
Irene Dixon, City Clerk

THE HOUR: Please publish once on Friday, July 8, 2022

The Norwalk Hour

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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C. At least one member of the Agency or staff of the Agency shall complete the course in technical training formulated by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-354v.

Dated at Norwalk, Connecticut this _____ day of June 2022.

ATTEST: _____ Irene Dixon, City Cler

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 21, 2022
BY VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Lisa Shanahan, Chair; David Heuvelman; Dominique Johnson; Joshua Goldstein; Thomas Keegan; Thomas Livingston; Nora Niedzielski Eichner

STAFF: Darin Callahan and Brian Candela, Corporation Counsel; Broderick Sawyer, Norwalk Fire Department; Robert Stowers, Director of Recreation and Parks

OTHERS: Heidi Alterman, Common Council member

ROLL CALL

Ms. Shanahan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and called the Roll as indicated above.

PUBLIC HEARING – possible action on

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted.

Discuss and vote on Pesticides Ordinance

Ms. Audrey Cuzzara spoke in support of the pesticides ordinance.

Ms. Priscilla Ferrel spoke in support of the pesticides ordinance and said that organic alternatives may be more expensive, but the considerations will be outweighed because they will not pose a pesticide risk.

Ms. Diane Lauricella spoke in support of the pesticides ordinance. She reviewed her background and said she would love to see an educational component of the ordinance. She offered a friendly warning about aerial spraying for west nile virus because it was toxic to bees.

A member of the Norwalk River Watershed spoke in support of the pesticides ordinance.

A member of the public spoke in support of the ordinance

There were no other speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

Discuss and vote on Firefighter safety Building Marking System Sign ordinance

There were no speakers, and the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner thanked the City staff for their work on the pesticides ordinance and for developing ways to move away from pesticides. Mr. Heuvelman added that the staff has been very open to making new changes and that says something for the quality of the staff.

Mr. Livingston offered grammatical changes along with titles for consistency. Ms. Johnson said she appreciated the adoption of inclusive gender-neutral language in the ordinance. She noted that it is important to do this as a City because they can't expect homeowners to do it, if the City is not doing it. She said they can be an example to homeowners. Mr. Goldstein noted the importance of educating people on how best to maintain their homes.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner suggested using their, rather than him/her in the ordinance. Ms. Johnson said she wanted to be sure the changes were consistent with the code. Mr. Keegan reminded his colleagues that this ordinance may have future financial implications and asked that they remember the steps the staff took if they have to request additional funding. Mr. Livingston said they could make changes from "his/her" to "their designee". The Committee agreed to that change.

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PESTICIDES ORDINANCE
AS AMENDED AND TO MOVE IT TO THE FULL COMMON COUNCIL
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Shanahan told Mr. Keegan that it was such a pleasure working with him on this Committee and that she will miss him.

Ms. Shanahan left the meeting at 7:32 p.m. and Mr. Livingston took over as Chair of the Committee.

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUILDING MARKING
SYSTEM SIGN ORDINANCE AND TO MOVE IT TO THE FULL
COMMON COUNCIL
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted.

Ms. Diane Lauricella spoke about the Aquifer Protection Agency and suggested moving it under the Conservation Commission rather than Planning and Zoning.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

May 17, 2022 – regular meeting

Page 4: Mr. Goldstein explained that since the meeting of May 17, 2022, the Cannabis law changed.

Page 6: the following sentence - Mr. Goldstein explained they are required to put the money in a trust account and does not believe the State law requires that the money be spent within a specific time, should read: Mr. Goldstein explained they are not required to put the money in a trust account and does not believe the State law requires that the money be spent within a specific time.

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss and vote on Cannabis ordinance

Mr. Goldstein said there are some draft concerns and he wanted to walk through some changes. He discussed the designated space issue. He noted that this is unlike any other ordinance, because there are no designed spots to smoke cigarettes or drink alcohol. He reviewed the updates to the ordinance.

Mr. Livingston thanked Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. Heuvelman referred to the section in the ordinance regarding cannabis restrictions. Mr. Goldstein explained that the law for cannabis has a requirement to chose a place or places where it can be used. Mr. Heuvelman told Mr. Goldstein that he was stigmatizing cannabis by limiting its use to one location. Mr. Livingston pointed out that Mr. Goldstein is not stigmatizing it; it is in the legislation. Mr. Heuvelman said he has a tough time with that section and putting it on the Mayor.

Ms. Johnson said she was focusing on equity and equitable and asked how to define those two. Mr. Goldstein said that was from the State statute. Ms. Johnson suggested highlighting that Black and Brown residents would be treated like everyone else. Mr. Goldstein said the definition of equity is from the State Statute. He added that one of the reasons this fund is in existence, is to remedy the issues from the war on drugs. Mr. Goldstein told Ms. Johnson that he would be happy to work with her on this. Ms. Johnson asked how they will put the practice of equity into enforcement so they do not create unintended effects.

Mr. Keegan said that when they talked about how this worked in MA, they indicated their biggest problem was with DUI, from a law enforcement perspective.

Mr. Keegan explained that someone had a problem with every single place they recommended as a place to use Cannabis. He said that cigarette smoking has been legal for years and years, but today it is frowned upon. Cannabis has been illegal for years and years. If someone is smoking cannabis in public, the Police can issue a summons, except if they are smoking in an area where it is permitted. The State requires the City to come up with a place where smoking is legal. If they choose to smoke elsewhere, they can get a ticket. Mr. Goldstein said they are trying to build cannabis as an industry in the City.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said this is a difficult issue, but the goal of legalizing cannabis is to decrease arrests; however she said that she did not want her child to walk in back of someone smoking cannabis and ingesting the second hand smoke. Mr. Livingston said they need to do what the State wants them to do. Mr. Heuvelman said he was concerned about this from an enforcement and equity standpoint and said they need to have multiple locations in the City.

It was noted that people do not only smoke cannabis and the question was asked if imbibing of cannabis was permitted in other places. Mr. Keegan said he did not think there was any guidance on imbibing cannabis. He said that this is a tremendous challenge and that they should come up with the best place possible. Ms. Johnson asked if they should include the definition of consumption in the ordinance. Mr. Goldstein said he would make a note of that.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner noted that people are not allowed to walk around on sidewalks with alcohol and this ordinance does not prohibit the use on private property.

Mr. Goldstein said the various City departments have been very helpful in finding appropriate retail facilities and for designating spots. Mr. Heuvelman said the City allows people to purchase and consume alcohol on site, but they do not permit that with cannabis. Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said this is a State law. Mr. Heuvelman said that cultivation is a huge opportunity for Norwalk.

Mr. Goldstein said that in May, the State legislature passed a bill providing several amendments to the original bill legalizing cannabis. He added that he did not see anything in the law preventing the City from limiting the number of retail sites.

The Committee members discussed the ordinance and the state statute relative to the fund. Mr. Goldstein thanked everyone for their engagement and thoughts. He noted that this is a collaborative process. There was no vote on the ordinance this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and vote on chapter 17 (Aquifer Protection Agency), Section 1 (Designation; membership; technical training)

Mr. Livingston explained that the proposed amendment changed the reference from the Zoning Commission to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Livingston said he did not hear from any other commission that this is not just a technical change.

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHANGE TO CHAPTER 17
(AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY), SECTION 1 (DESIGNATION;
MEMBERSHIP; TECHNICAL TRAINING)
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Livingston thanked Mr. Keegan and said that he will miss him.

DISCUSSION ITEM

There were no discussion items this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

REGULATION OF CANNABIS

§ 1-1. Purpose.

The purpose and intent of this chapter is as follows: (1) to revoke the temporary prohibition of all cannabis establishments, thereby permitting the operation of retail cannabis establishments in the City of Norwalk (the “City”); (2) to impose limitations upon the consumption of cannabis and cannabis products in public and quasi-public places; (3) to create the “Norwalk Cannabis Account,” a special fund account funded by municipal tax revenues due to retail sales of cannabis; and (4) to establish the policies and procedures of the Norwalk Cannabis Account.

§ 1-2. Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

CANNABIS

Marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as the same may be amended.

CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENT

A Producer, Dispensary Facility, Cultivator, Micro-cultivator, Retailer, Hybrid Retailer, Food and Beverage Manufacturer, Product Manufacturer, Product Packager, Delivery Service, or Transporter.

CANNABIS PRODUCT

Cannabis that is in the form of a Cannabis concentrate or a product that contains Cannabis, which may be combined with other ingredients, and is intended for use or consumption. “Cannabis Product” does not include the raw Cannabis plant.

CULTIVATION

Includes planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, and harvesting.

CULTIVATOR

A Person that is licensed to engage in the Cultivation, growing, and propagation of the Cannabis plant at an establishment with not less than fifteen thousand square feet of grow space.

DELIVERY SERVICE

A Person that is licensed by the State of Connecticut to deliver Cannabis from (1) Micro-Cultivators, Retailers, and Hybrid Retailers to consumers and research program subjects,

and (2) Hybrid Retailers and Dispensary Facilities to qualifying patients, caregivers, and research program subjects.

DISPENSARY FACILITY

A place of business where Cannabis may be dispensed, sold, or distributed to qualifying patients and caregivers, and to which the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection has issued a dispensary facility license.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURER

A Person that is licensed to own and operate a place of business that acquires Cannabis and creates food and beverages.

HYBRID RETAILER

A Person that is licensed to purchase Cannabis and sell Cannabis and medical marijuana products.

MICRO-CULTIVATOR

A Person licensed to engage in the Cultivation, growing and propagation of the Cannabis plant at an establishment containing not less than two thousand square feet and not more than ten thousand square feet of grow space.

PERSON

An individual, partnership, limited liability company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof.

PRODUCER

A Person that is licensed as a producer by the State of Connecticut.

PRODUCT MANUFACTURER

A Person that is licensed by the State of Connecticut to obtain Cannabis, extract and manufacture products exclusive to such license type.

PRODUCT PACKAGER

A Person that is licensed by the State of Connecticut to package and label Cannabis.

RETAILER

A Person, excluding a Dispensary Facility and Hybrid Retailer, that is licensed by the State of Connecticut to purchase Cannabis from Producers, Cultivators, Micro-cultivators, Product Manufacturers, and Food and Beverage Manufacturers and to sell Cannabis to consumers and research programs.

TRANSPORTER

A Person licensed by the State of Connecticut to transport Cannabis between Cannabis Establishments, laboratories and research programs.

§ 1-3. Revocation of Temporary Prohibition of Cannabis Establishments.

The Temporary Prohibition of all Cannabis Establishments in the City enacted on February 22, 2022 is hereby revoked.

§ 1-4. Cannabis Establishments.

- A. There shall be no more than three Retailers in the City.
- B. For up to thirty days after the opening of a Cannabis Establishment in the City, the City may charge such Cannabis Establishment for any necessary and reasonable costs incurred by the City for the provision of public safety services in relation to such opening, including, but not limited to, public safety costs incurred to direct traffic, in an aggregate amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars.

§ 1-5. Cannabis Consumption Restrictions.

- A. Except as otherwise set forth in this Chapter, the consumption of Cannabis and Cannabis Products shall not occur in any form on land owned or controlled by the City, including, but not limited to, all sidewalks, parks, beaches, and municipal-owned land or buildings.
- B. The consumption of Cannabis and Cannabis Products shall not occur at any outdoor dining establishment, as defined in § 45-29 of the Norwalk City Code.
- C. The Mayor shall, no later than the effective date of this Chapter, designate a place or places within the City wherein public consumption of Cannabis and Cannabis Products through smoking, vaping, or the consumption of edibles is permitted. The designated place or places shall contain visible signage that clearly delineates the hours during which such consumption is permitted. Such place or places may be re-designated from time to time at the Mayor's discretion or by action of the Common Council.

§ 1-6. Enforcement; Fines/Citation; Hearing; Appeals.

- A. Any Person violating any provision of this Chapter may be subject to the following penalties:

- (1) If it is determined that an individual has consumed Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products outdoors where consumption is not permitted by this Chapter, such individual shall be subject to a fine/citation of \$50 for each violation.
- (2) If it is determined that a Person permits the outdoor consumption of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products in violation of this Chapter, such Person shall be subject to a fine/citation of \$250 for each violation.
- (3) Any aggrieved Person may file an appeal to the Superior Court for the Judicial District of Stamford/Norwalk in accordance with Connecticut law.

§ 1-7. Establishment of the Norwalk Cannabis Account.

- A. The City does hereby create the Norwalk Cannabis Account, a special fund account to be used exclusively for the purposes as delineated in C.G.S. § 12-330mm(b)(5), as the same may be amended, which as of the effective date of this Chapter consist of the following: streetscape improvements and other neighborhood developments in communities where Cannabis Retailers, Hybrid Retailers or Micro-cultivators are located; education programs or youth employment and training programs in the City; services for individuals living in the City who were released from Department of Corrections custody, probation, or parole; mental health or addiction services; youth service bureaus and municipal juvenile review boards; and community civic engagement efforts.
- B. The continuation of the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be perpetual notwithstanding that from time to time said account may be unfunded. Funds in the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall not lapse at the end of the City's fiscal year.

§ 1-8. Norwalk Cannabis Account Collection; Sources of Funding; Investments; Limitations on use of Funds.

- A. The City's Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall be designated as the City official who shall receive notifications from the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services ("DRS") Commissioner regarding the municipal tax amount reported due from each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer and Micro-cultivator located in the City from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products.
- B. The Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall submit or resubmit their name and contact information to the DRS as required by law.
- C. The Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall act in accordance with C.G.S. § 12-330mm(b)(4), as the same may be amended, and is the individual responsible with regards to the invoicing and receipt of sums owed to the City from each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer, and Micro-cultivator located in the City from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products.

- D. The Norwalk Cannabis Account shall consist of the following: (1) all sums received by the City from municipal taxes owed by each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer, and Micro-cultivator from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products; (2) all gifts and grants from any source, public or private, made to the City and designated for this account; and (3) all investment income earned by this account.
- E. All or any part of the monies in the Norwalk Cannabis Account may be invested in any manner in which public funds may be lawfully invested.
- F. All of the monies in the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall at all times be subject to withdrawal for use as provided in this Chapter. No sums contained in the Norwalk Cannabis Account, including interest and dividends earned, shall be transferred to any other account within the City budget or used for any purpose not provided for in this Chapter.

§ 1-9. Expenditures from Norwalk Cannabis Account; Administration.

- A. The Chief of Community Services or their designee shall prepare, adopt, and publish on the City's website the Norwalk Cannabis Account Expenditure Guidelines ("Guidelines"), establishing the process, procedures, guidelines, rules, and requirements for application submission pursuant to this Section 1-9, and the mode, manner and means by which Norwalk Cannabis Account funds may be used by any applicant. The Guidelines shall be approved by the Common Council from time to time and, in any event, no less frequently than once every 24 months. No application for Norwalk Cannabis Account funds shall be accepted or funds held in the Norwalk Cannabis Account designated for a particular use or expenditure until the Guidelines have been approved by the Common Council and published on the City's website.
- B. Pursuant to the Guidelines, the Chief of Community Services shall, subject to the approval of the Common Council and the availability of funds in the Norwalk Cannabis Account, periodically, and at least annually, solicit applications for such funds from interested Persons. Provided the applications received in connection with such solicitation conform with the Guidelines and this Chapter, the Chief of Community Services shall forward a summary of such applications to the Common Council, originating in the Community Services Committee thereof or its successor, along with a recommendation for final action. The Common Council shall have the discretion to deny, in whole but not in part, such recommendation.
- C. No expenditure of funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be approved except in accordance with the Guidelines or made except in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.
- D. No expenditure of funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be in excess of the available balance in the fund.
- E. No officer or employee of the City, or any member of their immediate family, may receive a financial benefit from or have a direct or indirect personal or financial conflict of interest in

any Person that receives funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account. Terms used in this subparagraph not otherwise defined in this Chapter shall have the meanings given in § 32-3 of the Norwalk City Code, as the same may be amended.

§ 1-10. Norwalk Cannabis Account Reporting.

The Chief of Community Services or their designee shall, on an annual basis or as otherwise requested by the Common Council, prepare and deliver a written report to the Common Council of the amount in the Norwalk Cannabis Account and deposits and expenditures therefrom.

§ 1-11. Effective Date.

This Chapter shall be effective as of the effective date of the amendments to the City's zoning regulations to allow retail sales of recreational Cannabis.

REGULATION OF CANNABIS

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- B. The continuation of the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be perpetual notwithstanding that from time to time said account may be unfunded. Funds in the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall not lapse at the end of the City's fiscal year.

§ 1-8. Norwalk Cannabis Account Collection; Sources of Funding; Investments; Limitations on use of Funds.

- A. The City's Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall be designated as the City official who shall receive notifications from the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services ("DRS") Commissioner regarding the municipal tax amount reported due from each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer and Micro-cultivator located in the City from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products.
- B. The Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall submit or resubmit their name and contact information to the DRS as required by law.
- C. The Chief Financial Officer or their designee shall act in accordance with C.G.S. § 12-330mm(b)(4), as the same may be amended, and is the individual responsible with regards to the invoicing and receipt of sums owed to the City from each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer, and Micro-cultivator located in the City from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products.

- D. The Norwalk Cannabis Account shall consist of the following: (1) all sums received by the City from municipal taxes owed by each Cannabis Retailer, Hybrid Retailer, and Micro-cultivator from the sale of Cannabis and/or Cannabis Products; (2) all gifts and grants from any source, public or private, made to the City and designated for this account; and (3) all investment income earned by this account.
- E. All or any part of the monies in the Norwalk Cannabis Account may be invested in any manner in which public funds may be lawfully invested.
- F. All of the monies in the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall at all times be subject to withdrawal for use as provided in this Chapter. No sums contained in the Norwalk Cannabis Account, including interest and dividends earned, shall be transferred to any other account within the City budget or used for any purpose not provided for in this Chapter.

§ 1-9. Expenditures from Norwalk Cannabis Account; Administration.

- A. The Chief of Community Services or their designee shall prepare, adopt, and publish on the City's website the Norwalk Cannabis Account Expenditure Guidelines ("Guidelines"), establishing the process, procedures, guidelines, rules, and requirements for application submission pursuant to this Section 1-9, and the mode, manner and means by which Norwalk Cannabis Account funds may be used by any applicant. The Guidelines shall be approved by the Common Council from time to time and, in any event, no less frequently than once every 24 months. No application for Norwalk Cannabis Account funds shall be accepted or funds held in the Norwalk Cannabis Account designated for a particular use or expenditure until the Guidelines have been approved by the Common Council and published on the City's website.

- B. Pursuant to the Guidelines, the Chief of Community Services shall, subject to the approval of the Common Council and the availability of funds in the Norwalk Cannabis Account, periodically, and at least annually, solicit applications for such funds from interested Persons. Provided the applications received in connection with such solicitation conform with the Guidelines and this Chapter, the Chief of Community Services shall forward a summary of such applications to the Common Council, originating in the Community Services Committee thereof or its successor, along with a recommendation for final action. The Common Council shall have the discretion to deny, in whole or but not in part, any application made pursuant to this Chapter such recommendation.

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- C. No expenditure of funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be approved except in accordance with the Guidelines or made except in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.
- D. No expenditure of funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account shall be in excess of the available balance in the fund.

E. No officer or employee of the City, or any member of their immediate family, may receive a financial benefit from or have a direct or indirect personal or financial conflict of interest in any Person that receives funds from the Norwalk Cannabis Account. Terms used in this subparagraph not otherwise defined in this Chapter shall have the meanings given in § 32-3 of the Norwalk City Code, as the same may be amended.

§ 1-10. Norwalk Cannabis Account Reporting.

The Chief of Community Services or their designee shall, on an annual basis or as otherwise requested by the Common Council, prepare and deliver a written report to the Common Council of the amount in the Norwalk Cannabis Account and deposits and expenditures therefrom.

§ 1-11. Effective Date.

This Chapter shall be effective as of the effective date of the amendments to the City's zoning regulations to allow retail sales of recreational Cannabis.