

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
MAY 21, 2024
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Lisa Shanahan, Chair; Josh Goldstein; Johan Lopez; Melissa Murray;
Nora Niedzielski Eichner; Jalin Sead

STAFF: Garrett Bolella, Assistant Director of Transportation, Mobility and
Parking; Brian Candela, Corporation Counsel; James Travers, Director of
Transportation, Mobility and Parking; Jessica Vonashek, Chief of
Economic and Community Development

Ms. Shanahan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Shanahan called the Roll as indicated above.

PUBLIC HEARING (possible action on)

PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION

No members of the public were present this evening and Ms. Shanahan closed the Public Hearing.

- Discuss and vote on amendment to chapter 61 A - leaf blowers §4

Ms. Shanahan briefly reviewed the amendment and noted the effective date was August 1, 2024 to give people enough time to purchase equipment.

**** MS. MURRAY MOVED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 61 A - LEAF BLOWERS
§4 TO THE FULL COMMON COUNCIL**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

No members of the public were present this evening and Ms. Shanahan closed the Public Hearing

- Discuss and vote on amendment §9 - 27 (2024 transition provision) of the ordinance establishing an advisory committee for the reapportionment of common council voting districts

- ** MR. SEAD MOVED AMENDMENT §9 - 27 (2024 TRANSITION PROVISION) OF THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF COMMON COUNCIL VOTING DISTRICTS TO THE FULL COMMON COUNCIL**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to comment this evening.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- ** MS. MURRAY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES AS PRESENTED**

APRIL 16, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- ** MS. NIEDZIELSKI EICHNER MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES AS PRESENTED**

APRIL 24, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discuss the City of Norwalk complete streets proposed ordinance following a presentation

Mr. Travers and Mr. Bolella gave a presentation on the Complete Streets initiative, noting that the plan calls for streets to be designed for everyone. It is anticipated that Norwalk will be the 14th city in the State to adopt an Ordinance. Complete streets embraces Vision Zero which looks to eliminate fatalities on the roadways.

Following the presentation Mr. Travers and Mr. Bolella answered questions from Committee members. It was explained that every project is done in partnership with the Department of

City of Norwalk
Ordinance Committee
May 21, 2024
Via Teleconference
Page 2

Public Works. In addition, there are no conflicts with the Department of Transportation; they adopted the Complete Streets concept. Adopting the Complete Streets concept allows the City of Norwalk to be more competitive and sets an expectation.

Mr. Goldstein discussed the timing of the Ordinance and said he hopes to present a draft to the Committee members in two to three weeks and then go to public hearing in September.

Mr. Lopez asked about penalizing anyone who does not abide by the speed limit. Mr. Travers explained that requires a separate Ordinance. Mr. Goldstein said he will be sure the Ordinance is consistent with State law.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner asked about incentivizing people to choose other methods of transportation instead of being car dependent. Mr. Travers explained there is an education component and they will talk about the benefits. Mr. Sead talked about walking on Connecticut Avenue and said that once there is a way to walk there, people will feel comfortable walking.

Mr. Bolella said this is a major shift and part of Complete Streets is the design guide.

Ms. Murray said people have been asking about building a pedestrian bridge at Fairfield Avenue. Mr. Travers explained that in discussions with DOT he does not believe that is possible.

Ms. Vonashek updated the Committee on the progress of updating the following sections of the Harbor Management Ordinance. She said the changes were discussed with the chair and vice chair of the Harbor Management Commission and they were comfortable with the changes.

The changes will be reviewed further at the next meeting of the Ordinance Committee.

- Discuss and vote on chapter 69 - Norwalk Harbor, article 1 - general regulations §69-2, 69-5, 69-6
- Discuss and vote on chapter 69 - Norwalk Harbor, Article 3 - Norwalk Harbor management Commission §69-20,69-21,69-22,69-23,69-24.69-25 (proposed a new section)
- Discuss and vote on chapter 66 A -mooring and anchoring, article 1 - rules and regulations §66a-3, 66a-7, 66a-9, 66a-12, 66a-20
- Discuss and vote on chapter 66a – Mooring and Anchoring, Article II – Permit fees:§66a-236, 66a-27

Ms. Vonashek said they are moving forward with a Harbor Strategic plan. Consultants will provide guidance.

DISCUSSION ITEM

There was no further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. MURRAY MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:59 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services