

**CITY OF NORWALK
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2025**

ATTENDANCE: Lisa Shanahan, Chair; Heather Dunn; Josh Goldstein; Johan Lopez; Anne Wennerstrand; Nora Niedzielski-Eichner

OTHER: Stuart Wells, Registrar of Voters; Diana Paladino, Registrar of Voters; Christopher; Police Chief James Walsh; Nichole Eaddy, Common Council Member; Brian Lane; Diane Lauricella

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shanahan called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. There was a quorum present.

ROLL CALL

A Roll Call of those present was performed.

PUBLIC HEARING

**A. DISCUSS AND VOTE ON SECTION 9-32, ENTITLED DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED
(CONCERNING THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF COMMON COUNCIL VOTING
DISTRICTS).**

No one wished to speak on this item at this time.

Chair Shanahan provided the document for public review and reviewed the amendments that had been made on the item.

**** CHAIR SHANAHAN ASKED FOR A MOTION TO MOVE SECTION 9-32, ENTITLED DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED (CONCERNING THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF COMMON COUNCIL VOTING DISTRICTS) TO THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.**

**** MS. DUNN MADE THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Lauricella came forward for Public Participation. She said she supported the name change of the Commission on the Status of Woman to the Gender Equity Commission. She explained her reasoning for why.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

DECEMBER 17, 2024 – REGULAR MEETING OF THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Please make the following changes:

- Correct the spelling of Mr. Candela's name in all instances.

**** CHAIR SHANAHAN ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2024 AS AMENDED.**

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MAD THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSS AND VOTE ON CHAPTER 115: COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN.

Ms. Wennerstrand came forward to discuss this item. She noted that there had been language changes regarding gender, which she reviewed. A proposed change was made for 115-1, Subsection A was also made regarding naming.

**** CHAIR SHANAHAN ASKED FOR A MOTION TO VOTE ON BRINGING CHAPTER 115: COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN UP FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE NEXT MEETING IN FEBRUARY.**

**** MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER MADE THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSS VAPE SHOP ORDINANCE

Chief Walsh came forward to discuss this item. He provided information regarding the increase in number of smoke and vape shops. He also provided information regarding the legality of cannibal use and sale and how this was causing problems. Mr. Kleppin reviewed how a 'Vape Shop' was defined and some of the restrictions currently in place on them. He also discussed how the proposed definition changes would impact both vape and tobacco shops. Further discussion followed regarding research on the topic and how it had worked in other communities.

It was asked if there had been efforts to stop the suppliers. Chief Walsh said most of the product was foreign produced and made. There was more investigation being done to find the true source of the products. The ordinance was provided for review and further discussion followed. The Committee will try to co-ordinate the definition of vape products with Chief Walsh. Further discussion followed regarding what the ordinance would accomplish. Questions were raised about situations where the police could shut an operation down immediately and legal aspects of the ordinance. Chair Shanahan said there would be some changes, but this current form of the

ordinance was what it would ultimately look like. She is looking to take it to Public Hearing in March.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. DUNN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ian A. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services