

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
Thursday August 6, 2015
6:30 P.M.

Draft Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. The following Councilors were in attendance: Chairman Craig Fishbein and Councilors Tom Laffin, John LeTourneau, Christine Mansfield, Robert F Parisi, Larry Russo and John Sullivan. Councilors Vincent Cervoni and Vincent F Testa, Jr were absent. Others in attendance; Mayor William W. Dickinson, Jr., Corporation Counsel Janis Small, Fire Marshall Carmen Rao, Robert Beaumont Chairman PUC, George Adair Director Public Utilities, Jo Ann Rusczeck Tax Collector, Brian Hickey Electric Division.

3. **Acceptance of Minutes of May 7, 2015**

Motion to Accept

Made by: Laffin

Seconded: Russo

All Ayes

Motion Passed

4. **Acceptance of Minutes of June 4, 2015**

Motion to Accept

Made by: Laffin

Seconded: Russo

All Ayes

Motion Passed

5. Discussion and Possible Action with regard to amending the tax deferral ordinance for The Elderly or Disabled §203-3 et seq.

Discussion between Attorney Small and Tax Collector Rusczeck regarding amended Ordinance, Rusczeck was pleased with the amendment, Fishbein reflected about allowing The Town Attorney to extend the 180 day period to 270 days, Attorney Small will review and comeback with recommendations.

Motion to Table and have Corporation Counsel Review and return with new language.

Made by: Laffin

Seconded: Russo

All Ayes

Motion Passed

6. Discussion and Possible action on an Ordinance requiring structures to have a key lock box installed on the exterior for fire safety and property conservation purposes – Fire Marshal

Attorney Small summarized her memorandum; Fire Marshal Rao stated he took appeal language from current ordinance. Much Discussion between Councilors and Fire Marshal Rao regarding why this should be mandatory and not voluntary, concern over who has access to lockbox's, and the overstepping of the government's role.

No Action – Remove Issue

7. Discussion and Possible Action on amending Chapter 144-4 Noise Levels

No Action – Remove Issue

8. Discussion and Possible Action with respect to review/revision of Chapter 177 – Sewers, Article I – Inflow Infiltration into Sanitary Sewer System

Mr. Beaumont stated why the Ordinance was necessary. Councilor Fishbein had two issues, reimbursement and new language. Attorney Small stated that the Ordinance as it currently stands is a permanent law. Mr. Adair implored the council to not amend the current language. Councilor LeTourneau made it clear that it is the Council's responsibility to see what goes into an ordinance. Mr. Hickey said we need an inflow and infiltration program, the potential exists for disruption at the plant that could result in fines, there is much to consider. Mr. Adair talked about overflow occurring at the plant and high flow rates, 40 percent of I & I comes from the private side. Attorney Small will need to look into a permanent reimbursement program, the PUC would not be able to control the length of the reimbursement process. Councilor Fishbein summarized where we currently are, confirmed with Attorney Small path forward. Mr. Gessert a public guest felt that the PUC should be able to offer a reimbursement. Mr. Hickey informed the council that our Ordinance is similar to many other towns. The Mayor stated it is not in the best interest of the Town to not have an I & I program, someone will be held accountable, it is a major issue. Mr. Adair agreed with the Mayor. Councilor LeTourneau asked Councilor Fishbein how he would tweak the proposed Ordinance. Councilor Fishbein talked about time frame changes on notice period. The Mayor asks if the Council wants to be responsible. The PUC has to be accountable to manage this on a daily basis. Councilor Russo states we are getting off track and makes a motion.

Motion to refer Language that was previously before the Council back to the Council

Made by: Russo
Seconded: Laffin

Roll Call Vote:

Fishbein:	No	Parisi:	Yes	Mansfield:	Absent
Laffin:	Yes	Russo:	Yes	Chairman Cervoni:	Absent
LeTourneau:	No	Sullivan:	Yes	Testa:	Absent

5 – Aye, 2 – No, 3 – Absent

Motion Passed

9. Discussion and possible action on revising Chapter 156, Article I (Blighted Properties) So as to address repeat offenders.

Councilor Sullivan spoke on why he requested we extend the citation period to 90 days. Attorney Small expanded on the whys and her review of other municipal ordinances. Councilor LeTourneau can we go to 6 months? Attorney Small could not find any evidence that any municipality goes further than 90 days. Councilor Russo asked for the meaning of repeat offenders. Attorney Small said we have many repeat offenders and the building department is well aware of who they are. Resident Jamie Hime applauded Councilor Sullivan and Attorney Small for this change in the ordinance – 90 days is a good start.

Motion to move to council for approval

Made by: Sullivan

Seconded: Parisi

All Aye Vote

Motion Passed

Motion to Adjourn at 8:45 P.M.

Made by: Parisi

Seconded: LeTourneau

All Aye Vote

Motion Passed

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Recorded by Vice Chairman Sullivan on Thursday August 6, 2015

Submitted by Town Clerk Barbara Thompson

