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City of Milford

PressRelease

City Unveils New Program Offering On-Line Access to Municipal Code of Ordinances.

Mayor James L. Richetelli, Jr. and City Clerk Linda Stock Announce Initiative to Improve Accessibility of Government Documents. Late September Start Date Is Projected.

Milford, CT, August 23, 2010: The municipal Code of Ordinances – the local rules and regulations governing life in Milford – will soon be as close as a keystroke, as Milford prepares to unveil on-line access to the Code.

“This is a great step forward in terms of the convenience and cost savings for our citizens,” said Mayor James L. Richetelli, Jr., in announcing the initiative with City Clerk Linda Stock.

Presently, residents who want to look at the Code of Ordinances have to travel to the Parsons Government Center during business hours, and wade through the cumbersome volume. That trip will be unnecessary with

upcoming on-line access. And copies - that will soon be available from any home or office printer - currently cost \$.50 per page in the City Clerk's office.

The Mayor credited Mrs. Stock with "setting the ball in motion immediately after her election last November by applying for - and ultimately receiving - a \$6,000 grant from the State of Connecticut Historic Documents Preservation Program to fund this improvement at no cost to the taxpayers."

Mrs. Stock said the grant covers the cost of putting the Code on-line, as well as maintenance for two years. After a lengthy research and polling process to select a contractor, Mrs. Stock chose General Code, of Rochester, New York. Mrs. Stock said that General Code has more than 2,700 customers in 32 states and Canada, and has performed similar Code work in Stratford, Orange, Clinton and Old Saybrook.

So, beginning in late September residents will be able to view and search the Code of Ordinances through the City of Milford website, which is www.ci.milford.ct.us. On the City homepage, click on the link for City Departments, and go to City Clerk. There, a link will direct searchers to the Code of Ordinances.

To make the process as simple and efficient as possible, Mrs. Stock selected the company's **eCode360** program. An electronic index will offer quick scanning to easily locate information. In addition to traditional keyword, phrase and Boolean searching, **eCode360** will enable users to enter specific section numbers to go directly to the desired Code section. And the program description promises that shortcut links to chapters, articles and sections within the Code can be copied and pasted into e-mails for easy information sharing.

“Perhaps one of the best features is that citizens will be able to conduct their research anytime, day or night, without having to make a special trip to the City Clerk’s office,” Mrs. Stock said. “Our goal is to find ways to make the City documents more accessible.”

To prepare for the new electronic format, interested parties can register for a free on-line demonstration through www.generalcode.com/eCode360.

Questions may be directed to the City Clerk’s Office, 203-783-3210.