

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 3, 2008**

The Ordinance Committee of the Board of Aldermen held a meeting and public session on Monday, March 3, 2008. Chairman Patterson called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and read the public notice as posted in the New Haven Register on February 28, 2008.

MEMBERS PRESENT

J. Patterson, Chairman
J. Blacketter, Vice Chairman
N. Veccharelli
V. Ditchkus
A. Gianattasio

Chairman J. Patterson opened the public session of the Ordinance Committee at 7:08 p.m. regarding the following Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance Amending §18-120 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford (Regional Planning Commission Alternate).

Speakers in Favor:

L. Malone – 14 Eighth Avenue – stated she is with the Open Space Advisory Committee and wished to speak in favor of the Farm Exemption.

Chairman Patterson interjected stating that was the next Ordinance.

Speakers Opposed – none.

Chairman Patterson closed the Public Session on the above Ordinance.

Ald. Blacketter and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to forward to the full Board with a favorable recommendation an Ordinance Amending §18-120 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford (Regional Planning Commission Alternate). Motion carried unanimously.

On the second Ordinance on the agenda, Chairman Patterson opened the Public Session regarding the following Ordinance at 7:10 p.m.:

2. An Ordinance Enacting §20.5-12 of the Milford Code of Ordinances, a local option to provide a certain Farm Exemption from taxation in accordance with General Statutes §§12-91 (c) and (d).

Speakers in Favor:

L. Malone – 14 Eighth Avenue – stated she speaking on behalf of the Open Space Advisory Committee and that they are in favor of this ordinance. She stated they are looking into the consideration of agriculture and farm with an idea to protect the farms in our City. She explained the listening session and some of the ideas shared. She stated she wanted our farms to remain here in Milford. She expressed concern at the rate of attrition and that there would be no farm industry by the middle of this century. She stated this proposal would help those farms and reiterated the Open Space Advisory Committee approves and recommends approval of this Ordinance.

R. Hans – 46 Oregon Avenue North – stated he is a beekeeper here in Milford and supplies to our farms. He urged the Board to sign this tax abatement. He also stated he has spoken with who have property and commented they are land rich and farm poor but that they love their land and that it was important to help them out in any way we can.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – stated he is in favor and that he also thinks representatives from our State should help out as well and referred to New York where they also get aid from the state.

M. Treat – no address given – commented there already is a State statute and it is up to our own City to adopt this if they wish. She stated this could be a big help to the farm community.

D. Board – no address stated – stated she is a small dairy farmer and is very much in favor of any help she can get.

Speakers Opposed - None

Chairman Patterson closed the public session at 7:16 p.m.

Ald. Blacketter and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to forward to the full Board with a favorable recommendation an Ordinance Enacting §20.5-12 of the Milford Code of Ordinances, a local option to provide a certain Farm Exemption from taxation in accordance with General Statutes §§12-91 (c) and (d). Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Blacketter moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Board Secretary