

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING and
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 1, 2019**

The Ordinance Committee of the Board of Aldermen held a meeting and public hearing on Monday, April 1, 2019. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

F. Smith Chairman
A. Giannattasio
E. Beatty
R. Vitali
A. Sutton

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake
J. Berchem, City Attorney
J. Rosen, Chief of Staff

Chairman Smith stated the Committee was here tonight to consider two (2) Ordinances. He stated the meeting was being held in accordance with the legal notice posted in the New Haven Register on March 27, 2019. Chairman Smith stated he would entertain a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinances in their entirety.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinances in their entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

1. An Ordinance Establishing Chapter 10, Health and Sanitation, Article III, Tobacco Products, §§10-22 through 10-28 of the Milford Code of Ordinances.

Chairman Smith stated the Ordinance deals with the dispensing of tobacco products. He stated that State statute allows a person to purchase tobacco at 18 years of age and this ordinance will change this to 21 years of age in Milford. He further stated that the Ordinance also deals with vaping. Chairman Smith asked for anyone wishing to speak in favor of this ordinance to approach the podium.

Jennifer Paradis, Director, Beth-El Shelter, 90 New Haven Avenue stated she supports the ordinance. Ms. Paradis read from a prepared statement. She stated this is a tough and challenging issue. Ms. Paradis provided information on the perils of teen smoking and that flavored products have made tobacco products more appealing to youth.

John Dixon, Executive Director, Bridges, 949 Bridgeport Avenue, read from a prepared statement. He discussed the perils of teen smoking and flavors making it more appealing. He stated that tobacco use has an adverse affect on brain development and a connection to mental health issues. He stated he support raising the age to 21.

Anna Cutaia, Superintendent of Schools, 70 West River Street, stated she was present with her team who support the ordinance. She stated that as educators they see the impact of use on teens.

Fran Thompson, Principal Jonathan Law High School, 20 Lansdale Avenue, spoke of the dangers of tobacco use and electronic devices. He stated this is a national epidemic with teenagers and it is beginning to infiltrate into middle school age children. Mr. Thompson stated it is important to educate and inform students on the dangers associated with tobacco use.

Morgan Taylor, 340 Wolf Harbor Road, read from a prepared statement. She stated she is in favor of the ordinance. Ms. Morgan stated she is a Junior at Jonathan Law High School. The use of tobacco products has infested the school. She stated the bathrooms are locked in order to curtail smoking and provided a prospective of her day and how it is affected by students using tobacco products.

Ed VanChot, 858 New Haven Avenue, stated he is in favor of the ordinance. He stated this tobacco products are a gateway drug and that flavor make it more appealing.

Speakers in Opposition – None

Public Hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to forward to the full Board of Aldermen with a favorable recommendation an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 10, Health and Sanitation, Article III, Tobacco Products, §§10-22 through 10-28 of the Milford Code of Ordinances.

Ald. Vitali stated he believes the ordinance is well written and thank the City Attorney and Mayor. He stated that Connecticut is at the near national average for smoking. Ald. Vitali stated that approximately 1300 children become smokers each day. He stated that local government is the best tool for prevention. Ald. Vitali stated that 7 states have raised the age for tobacco to 21. He further stated that 6 municipalities in Connecticut have such an ordinance with Milford's ordinance being the 7th and there are 440 localities nationwide that have adopted such an ordinance.

Ald. Giannattasio thanked Ald. Vitali for his passion in bringing this ordinance forward and he will support it as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach And Other Restricted Parking Areas).

Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

Chairman Smith stated this amends the current ordinance to include metered parking on the street and raising parking fees from \$15 to \$20 which is consistent with other municipalities. Chairman Smith read the amendments into the record. He stated that kiosks will be installed to pay for parking

and the police will monitor. Chairman Smith further stated that resident parking with a beach sticker is exempt including non-residents who have purchased a seasonal parking pass.

Speakers in Favor – None.

Speakers Opposed – None.

Chairman Smith closed the public hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to forward to the full Board of Aldermen with a favorable recommendation an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach And Other Restricted Parking Areas). Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Jo Weeks", written over a horizontal line.

Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary