

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING  
DECEMBER 3, 2018**

The Ordinance Committee of the Board of Aldermen held a meeting and public hearing on Monday, December 3, 2018. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
Jonathan D. Berchem, City Attorney  
Steven Fournier, Mayor's Assistant

Chairman Smith stated tonight's meeting was being held in accordance with the notice posted in the New Haven Register on November 28, 2018 regarding the following proposed amendment:

1. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 16, Parks and Recreation, Article I, In General Sections 16-1 and 16-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Building Fires or Cooking Food on Public Beaches Prohibited and Prohibited Activities on Public Recreational Areas).

Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. He stated there is language adding Section 13-b that basically brings in a section of the area behind the library and Wilcox Park. He explained the amendment to the Ordinance brings in the regulations of the other parks and beaches into conformance, adding the area would now be known as Fowler Park.

Speakers in Favor

Bill Bevan – 23 Merlin Circle – stated he would ask this Board about the perimeters of this Ordinance and if the proposed Ordinance includes all 4 softball fields, the basketball courts, tennis courts and the Milford launch area. He also asked about Founders Walk.

Speakers Opposed – None.

Chairman Smith closed the public hearing on this Ordinance at 7:10 p.m.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

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 16, Parks and Recreation , Article I, In General, Sections 16-1 and 16-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Building Fires or Cooking Food on Public Beaches Prohibited and Prohibited Activities on Public Recreational Areas).

Ald. Vitali commented about the restrictions and questioned how the area would be monitored. He stated currently you are able to drink, eat and have a bon fire with a permit.

Mayor Blake recognized the Recreation Director Paul Piscitelli was present to answer additional questions the Board may have. Mayor Blake stated the amendment is simply some language clean up that is being clarified. He stated as part of that the boundaries were being outline and clarified. He stated these are not new rules, simply rules that are being clarified within the meets and bounds. Mayor Blake also pointed out a new playground would be going in at Fowler Field. He stated last year tennis courts were renovating and the work at Founders Walk was recently completed.

Ald. Giannattasio asked for clarification. He asked if there are existing parks in the city where people are able to have a fire or cook.

Director Piscitelli stated cooking or a fire it is not allowed without a specific permit.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if people when provided a permit from the Recreation Department could then cook out.

Director Piscitelli replied yes and reiterated only with a permit. He explained the ball fields fall under the permit guidelines, which most people do not realize. Director Piscitelli stated this Ordinance only changes the description of the park.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the difference with the process.

Director Piscitelli stated there wasn't one. He stated the proposed amendment simply clarifies the definition of what Fowler Field encompasses. He provided history regarding the Caswell Cove Park that is similar to this change.

Ald. Vitali asked if there would be hours established at the park, such as sunrise to sunset.

Mayor Blake stated technically the closing of parks in the city is 9:00 p.m., however there can be an exception based on a permit.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

The Committee adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary