



MINUTES

PUBLIC HEALTH & RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE RTM
Special Meeting
Waterford Town Hall – Louise Appleby Room
June 30, 2022

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DATE: 2022 JUL -6 AM 9:57
TOWN CLERK

Public Health Recreation & Environment Committee Chair Michael Bono called the June 30, 2022 Special Meeting to order at 4:04 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mike Bono, Mary Childs, Nick Gauthier, Ryan Healy (5:02 P.M.), Jennifer Bracciale.

ABSENT: None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: RTM Member Susan Driscoll, RTM Member Danielle Steward-Gelinas.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk David L. Campo; Police Chief Marc Balestracci, Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Waterford Resident Helen Kwasniewski, 227 Bloomingdale Rd, spoke in regard to the noise ordinance and that it restricts the use of power equipment.

Waterford Resident Deborah Griffith, 63 North Rd, spoke in favor of a strong noise ordinance.

Waterford Resident Nancy Hennigan, 7 Reynolds Ln, spoke in favor of a strong noise ordinance.

Attorney Mark Kepple of Stonington on behalf of his clients spoke for the need of a strong, enforceable ordinance that creates accountability.

ITEM 5 – February 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Gauthier, seconded by Bracciale, to approve the February 22, 2022 meeting minutes.

VOTING IN FAVOR: unanimous

CALL ITEM 5A – Review of Noise Ordinance, Noise Control – Chapter 9.06, RTC 10/04/21

Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple spoke at length about a future noise ordinance. He noted that keeping it simple and enforceable is difficult. Any ordinance needs to be approved by DEEP and the town gets its' power from "Home Rule". Any ordinance should contain very clear definitions and the RTM may include times when activities such as garbage pickup need to be completed. Most towns use police to enforce, but there may be an opportunity to use a procedure that has a hearing officer with an ability to appeal. Lengthy discussion ensued.

The committee discussed the difficulty of enforcement, and who would enforce, and the need to keep it as simple as possible. Does State Statute (12-35) provide a vehicle to enforce? The Committee

developed the following list of goals to be addressed for the next meeting: have someone from Planning and Zoning attend. Legal will poll surrounding town's, along with Old Lyme, Glastonbury, and Watertown on what's working and not working, specifically about enforcement post pandemic and Governor executive orders.

MOTION by Gauthier, seconded by Childs, to adjourn at 5:34 P.M..

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Bono

Chair