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ORDINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE | 6 FEB 17 PM 4:05
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2016
7:00 P.M.

ant. Maria Banch
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

PRESENT

Matt Edo
Lorie Vaccaro
Randy Carroll
Jeff Cappola
Chief Hale
John Marini Esq.

ABSENT

Joseph Jeanette
Joan Radin

Call to Order:

Alderman Edo called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. All rose, Pledged Allegiance to the Flag. A roll call attendance was taken and a quorum was declared present.

A discussion was held in regards to the Ordinance pertaining to Child Safety Zones. Attorney Marini says the state came up with a Child Protection Ordinance that many towns and cities across the state have also adopted. Attorney Marini says they will either pay or appeal the citation. Chief Hale asks who will be keeping track of who is warned or cited and who will be collecting fines. Chief Hale goes on to say City wide citations need to be created with an appeal process. Attorney Marini recommends talking with the state attorney to be clear on what the procedure is. Mr. Carroll asks on definition three "Public Park" would that mean an individual on the registered sex offender list can not go to the Nature Center and walk the trails. Attorney Marini says the statue is addressed in more detail and a list of specific places will be made. Attorney Marini says Danbury for instance does not include specific times of day it just states a person on the list of registered sex offenders can not be at specific places at any time. Such places are listed. Mr. Carroll asks Chief Hale if Ansonia has an issue with many people on the registered sex offender list. Chief Hale says there are registered sex offenders everywhere and he says he sometimes receives calls from concerned neighbors that find out a person in the neighborhood is on the list. Attorney Marini says signs can be put in place at specific locations.

Mr. Carroll makes a motion to approve as discussed. Mr. Vaccaro seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

A discussion was held in regards to the Ordinance pertaining to Smoking on City Fields. Attorney Marini says this is for Recreational Property and School Property. Mr. Coppola asks if there will be designated spots. Mr. Edo says they can reach out to all Recreation Board Presidents to see where a good designated area will be.

Mr. Vaccaro makes a motion to have designated areas for smoking. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

Chief Hale states again signage will need to be posted.

Mr. Vaccaro makes a motion to pass the Smoking Ordinance as discussed. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

A discussion was held in regards to the Ordinance in regards to Dogs on Playing Surfaces of City Fields. Mr. Edo says it was brought to his attention by residents that there is dog feces on the playing fields. Chief Hale says again a sign needs to be posted. Attorney Marini says some of this can be posted under one sign. Mr. Vaccaro asks Mr. Coppola if it is a big issue on playing fields. Mr. Coppola says yes.

Mr. Carroll asks that this will have no relevance to the Riverwalk. Attorney Marini says no, this is separate.

Mr. Vaccaro makes a motion to accept the Ordinance. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

Public Session:

Mr. Edo asks if there is anyone from the Public wishing to speak.

Mr. Steve Soblinsky 93 Prospect Street

Mr. Soblinsky asks if the dogs are not on playing fields but are allowed to walk around the fields is there already a leash law in place?

Chief Hale says yes.

Jeff Devine 12 Arlene Drive

Mr. Devine asks if there is an Ordinance in regards to outdoor wood burning stoves. Alderman President Phil Tripp says the violation at this point is burning of debris such as leaves and trash.

Anne Lynch 15 Birchwood Drive

Mrs. Lynch apologizes for being late and asks if there will be signs posted on the fields about dogs not being allowed as well as no smoking. Attorney Marini says yes. Mrs. Lynch asks if there will be fines. Attorney Marini says yes but at this time the amount has not yet been determined. Mrs. Lynch asks if the baseball field at Nolan has been locked. Mr. Coppola says yes the Public Works Department has locked it.

Brad Zealor 30 Elm Street

Mr. Zealor says he was not able to attend the last ordinance meeting. Mr. Zealor says that all volunteers are given background checks and a review is sent back which states if the individual has a criminal background and what it is. Mr. Zealor states at which point someone needs to hit the accept or deny button. Mr. Zealor asks how he or any other league President is to make a judgement call on that. Mr. Zealor says there is no specific criteria it only says crimes against children. Mr. Zealor asks if something is to happen to a child from a volunteer who has a

background check performed and something came back but they were still able to volunteer who is responsible. Mr. Zealor asks if the City is going to set criteria.

Attorney Marini says the question is to liability. Attorney Marini says volunteers are protected by the city and they will not be held personally responsible.

Mr. Zealor goes on to say if they have nothing to follow how is the volunteer to make the judgement call and final decision. Mr. Zealor says there is nothing that the town has to protect them if a situation occurs.

Attorney Marini says that they will be looking into a policy that will be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Coppola says soccer, baseball, AYF all do background checks, he suggests bringing all league presidents.

Mr. Carroll says he wants to make sure there is a time limit for people convicted of crimes. He says if someone was arrested for drunk driving 20 years ago and has not been in any trouble since that one mistake they should be allowed a second chance to be a part of our youth programs. Mr. Coppola says for that particular example made by Mr. Carroll he has no problem with that person volunteering.

Chris Saddler 9 West Roosevelt Drive

Mr. Saddler asks if the board will have a date set in place for background check policy because as president of baseball he will be doing background checks in just a few weeks.

Attorney Marini says it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Keith Maynard 8 Cook Street

Mr. Maynard says with all due respect to Corporate Counsel, liability was once again brought up. Mr. Murray says three organizations that he is involved with do not see any liability and he wants to know why its being brought up again. Mr. Maynard says he is in favor of Child Safety Zones.

Sakini DePina 29 Lester Street

Mrs. DePina asks how the city plans on implementing Child Safety zones. Mrs. DePina says Ansonia is small. Mrs. DePina says as a volunteer she would not have a list of registered offenders. Mrs. DePina asks what are you asking us to do? Attorney Marini says nobody is asking any volunteer to do anything more, having this ordinance in place just gives you ability to report it. Mr. Marini says a sign will be posted for protection and you can call 911. Attorney Marini says these are just tools not to burden you as a volunteer. Mrs, DePina says registered offenders should already know from the Judicial System. Attorney Marini says yes, this is just in addition. Mrs. DePina asks if an updated list will be given. Attorney Marini says no there is no extra work for the volunteer. An updated list is Public information and can be viewed online.

Mr. Carroll made a motion to close Public Session. Mr. Vaccaro seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

A discussion was held in regards to the Ordinance pertaining to Enforcement of Land-Use Regulations.

Mr. Vaccaro made a motion to pass the Enforcement of Land-Use Regulations Ordinance as written. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

The Ordinance pertaining to Increased Fines for Parking Violations will be proposed in a Public Hearing on Tuesday February 23, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

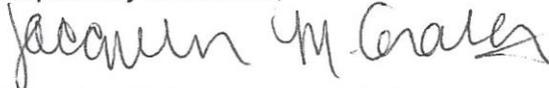
A discussion was held in regards to the Ordinance pertaining to Licensure of Solicitors: Veterans Organizations. Mr. Pat Henri says organizations never heard of before are standing outside places like Stop and Shop. Mr. Henri says you can not even find any information on the internet about them. Attorney Marini says maybe we can reach out to the stores. Mr. Henri says that he has already done that. Attorney Marini asks if there is a registry that states recognized Veteran organizations. Mr. Henri states there is. Chief Hale says he supports the Ordinance 100% but if the property owner is ok with it then there is nothing that can be done.

Mr. Edo makes a motion to get something written up to see what can be done in regards to this matter. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor, so carried.

Adjournment:

Mr. Vaccaro made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. All in favor so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacquelyn M. Craig". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jacquelyn Craig, Recording Clerk