

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 31, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Marcus Brown, Co-chair; Rosalina Roman-Christy, Co-chair; Jorge Cruz, Aikeem Boyd, Michelle Lyons, Ernest Newton

STAFF: Atty. Mark Anastasi

OTHER: Council Member Maria Valle; Thomas Gaudett, Mayor's Office; Lynn Haig, Planning Director, OPED; Atty. Tysha Toms, City Attorney's Office; Manuel Cotto, Lt., Police Department; Matthew Abbott, OPED; Council Member Scott Burns; Council Member Mary McBride-Lee; Council Member Tyler Mack; Tamsyn Ambler; Council Member Maria Pereira

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Brown called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M. There was a quorum present.

AMENDED AGENDA

23-21

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES,
CHAPTER 2.06 –
COMMON COUNCIL, AMEND SECTION 2.06.070 – OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES AND AMEND
TO ADD NEW SECTION(S): 2.06.080 – LEGISLATIVE AIDES FOR CITY COUNCIL;
2.06.090 –
LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE CITY COUNCIL AND 2.06.100 –
BUDGET DIRECTOR FOR
CITY COUNCIL. (FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORDERING A PUBLIC HEARING ONLY)**

**** CO-CHAIR ROMAN-CHRISTY MOVED TO HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 23-21 ON APRIL 18, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

36-21

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES,
CHAPTER 12.16 – STREET
AND SIDEWALK USE REGULATIONS, AMEND SECTIONS 12.16.245 – PERMIT TO
USE CITY
STREETS AND SIDEWALKS FOR THE SHARED MOBILITY PROGRAM AND
12.16.250 –
MISCELLANEOUS ACTS PROHIBITED. (FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION AND
ORDERING A**

(PUBLIC HEARING)

An additional amendment was proposed by Atty. Toms. She read the proposed amendment for those present for review. Atty. Anastasi noted that they could only discuss and order a public hearing tonight and could not vote on the amendment. The possibility of having the meeting recessed until a later date to address the amendment or introducing it on the Council floor when the item was presented was raised. Further discussion followed. It was clarified that the rules being made by the amendments would be made by OPED and not by an outside entity. Co-chair Brown requested that the next meeting be done in-person.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO SCHEDULE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 36-21 FOR APRIL 18, 2022 AT 5:15 P.M. IN-PERSON.**

**** CO-CHAIR ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** CO-CHAIR ROMAN-CHRISTY MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO ITEM 23-21 TO HAVE THE MEETING BE IN-PERSON ON APRIL 18, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

33-21
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES,
AMEND CHAPTER 10.32 –
THE OPERATION OR USE OF DIRT BIKES, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES,
SNOWMOBILES, MOTOR-
DRIVEN CYCLES, OR MINI CYCLES. (NOTE: THIS ITEM CAN BE FOUND ON THE
CITY CLERK’S
WEBSITE: CITY COUNCIL AGENDAS/MINUTES; CITY COUNCIL; 2021-2022;
FULL/MINUTES/SIZE;
2022-02-22.PDF)

Atty. Anastasi said there had been changes to the amendment which he proceeded to review for the Committee. Council Member Newton asked if the numbers that were being suggested to charge the gas stations were out of the range of what was being permitted by the charger. Atty. Anastasi said that, while it was out of the range of general statutes, there were statutes specific to certain areas of the law that allowed for greater fees. Council Member Newton asked where the numbers for the statutes in the charter could be found. Atty. Anastasi responded that the maximum was 250 but there may be other provisions possible.

Council Member Cruz suggested that they put this item up for a public hearing to attempt to reach out to gas station owners and representatives. He did not want to vote in support of it until he had heard from them.

Council Member Pereira insisted that the gas station employees and owners had been properly informed and had not attended the public hearing. She said she had also gotten the dollar amounts for her proposed amendments from the ordinances. Further discussion followed regarding the proposed fees and related ordinances. Council Member Newton expressed concern over people potentially having criminal records as a result of selling gas to people with the

vehicles. Council Member Pereira suggested performing a major change to the entire ordinance to fix any problems instead of relying on amendments. A method of utilizing stickers to ensure that gas stations are informed and police officers know that a gas station has a prior infraction was brought up to help enforce the ordinance. Further discussion followed regarding enforcement. Council Member Newton expressed concern about the amount of time needed to police the various gas stations and enforce the ordinance.

- ** CO-CHAIR ROMAN-CHRISTY MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 33-21.**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** CO-CHAIR ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Ian A. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services