

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2023**

ATTENDANCE: Tyler Mack, Co-chair; Aikeem Boyd, Michelle Lyons, Ernest Newton, Maria Valle, Council President A. Nieves, Jorge Cruz (6:19 p.m.)

OTHERS: Council Member(s): S. Burns, F Hodges (6:19 p.m.) & M. Pereira, (6:38 p.m.); T. Gaudett, Deputy Chief of Staff; Atty. J. Maye, John Urquidi, City Engineer; Call in User 1, 203-414-0712; 203-673-6786

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Mack called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- **June 27, 2023 (Regular Meeting)**
- **July 3, 2023 (Public Hearing)**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:**

- **JUNE 27, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING)**
- **JULY 3, 2023 (PUBLIC HEARING)**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

91-22 Proposed Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10.12 – Stopping, Standing and Parking Generally amend Section 10.12.010 – Restrictions on Stopping or Parking Generally-Violations-Penalties-Exemption, Subsection B, Penalty.

Council Member Burns said that there were many visitors and residents who have to deal with tractor trailers parking on the streets. This is a quality of life issue.

Council Member Lyons said that she wished to be added on the resolution as a co-sponsor.

Council Member Newton said that he had heard about tractor trailers parking on the streets. He said that there did not appear to be any enforcement of the tickets.

Council Members Cruz and Hodges joined the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

Council Member Burns said that there were some places where the tractor trailer parking was not a problem but when they are in residential areas, it is a problem. He added that the current fine was \$130.00. Atty. Maye said that the fine was being doubled and would be \$260.00.

Council Member Mack said that it was going to take some time to find a completely workable solution. This is just the start of the process.

Council Member Newton asked where the tractor trailers should be parking. He also wished to know if these trucks were privately owned rather than company owned. Council Member Burns said that it was his understanding that these were privately owned by individual contractors. They are being parked in residential areas. He said that he and Council Member Boyd had visited a number of locations where these trucks are parked. These ordinances are now 30 years old.

Council Member Newton said that he would support this item because they need to help the residents but also pointed out that some of the truckers are supporting their families by driving these vehicles. Discussion followed about possibly finding a lot where the truckers could rent space on a daily basis.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 91-22 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 10.12 – STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING GENERALLY AMEND SECTION 10.12.010 – RESTRICTIONS ON STOPPING OR PARKING GENERALLY-VIOLATIONS-PENALTIES-EXEMPTION, SUBSECTION B, PENALTY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

98-22 Proposed Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, amend Chapter 12.08 – Street, Sidewalk and Driveway Construction and Maintenance.

Atty. Maye said that Mr. Urquidi, the City Engineer, was on the line to speak about the item. Mr. Urquidi said that there was a new permits officer in the Department and they were working on creating a new process. He added that they would like to have a new fee of \$150.00 to \$250.00. The current ordinance mentions telegraph cables, which are no longer used and the ordinance needs to be updated.

These changes will also update the paving requirements and sidewalk repairs to the process and standards that the City has been using for a number of years. He reviewed the details of the bonding requirements, the new requirements when trenches over 100 feet are created and the traffic control protocols.

Council Member Pereira joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Council Member Newton said that it was good to have this ordinance updated. He said that he did not want the Director of Public Facilities to circumvent the Council's authority. He will not support that portion of the ordinance.

Council Member Pereira said that she agreed with Council Member Newton and said that it was up to the Council to decide what streets should be paved. She said that this language should be removed from the ordinance. She said that it was insulting that the Public Facilities Director, who doesn't live in Bridgeport, should be able to make the decision.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO STRIKE THE TWO SECTIONS THAT ALLOWS THE PUBLIC FACILITIES OF TO BYPASS THE COUNCIL REGARDING STREET PAVING.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE SECONDED.**

Discussion followed about creating a long term paving plan. Council Member Newton said that the Budget and Appropriations Committee should work with the administration on designating a set amount for street paving.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON WITHDREW HIS MOTION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO AMEND AGENDA ITEM 98-22 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, AMEND CHAPTER 12.08 – STREET, SIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE BY STRIKING THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF SECTION 12.08.050 AND THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES OF SECTION 12.08.060.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 98-22 AS AMENDED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

99-22 Proposed Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, amend Chapter 12.12 – Excavations.

Mr. Urquidi said that it would be important that the City include the Federal requirements. He explained that there were times when the contractor could pay the City to do the repaving and it would be in everyone's best interest to do this.

Council Member Mack said that he would like to confirm that the amendments the Committee just approved for Item did not have an impact on this item. Atty. Maye said that the amendments to Agenda Item 98-22 would not affect anything in Agenda Item 99-22.

Council Member Newton said that this would now hold contractors accountable for the work they do on the roads.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 99-22 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, AMEND CHAPTER 12.12 – EXCAVATIONS.
** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AGENDA ITEMS 91-22, 98-22 AND 99-22 ON THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2023 AT 6 P.M.
** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services