

## **Proposed Amendments to Sec. 21-3 – Naming of City Owned Facilities**

### CHAPTER 21. - FACILITIES, CITY-OWNED

#### GENERAL REFERENCES

City-owned property—See Ch. 9.

Numbering of buildings—See Ch. 167.

Streets and sidewalks—See Ch. 214.

#### ARTICLE I. - PROPOSALS FOR NAMING OF FACILITIES

##### Sec. 21-1. - Submission of proposals.

(a) Proposals to change the name of existing city-owned streets, parks and facilities or portions thereof and newly-acquired city-owned streets, parks and facilities or portions thereof shall be submitted for final approval to the Board of Representatives by the board, commission or department or other entity occupying or having jurisdiction over such street, park or facility or portion thereof.

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Mill River Collaborative, in relation to its assumption of substantial responsibility for the operation of Mill River Park pursuant to an agreement between it and the city, shall be exempted from compliance with this section effective as of the effective date of such Agreement, until the termination date of said Agreement or the date of termination of any extension thereof, or the date of termination thereof for any other reason. The Mill River Collaborative shall give the Board of Representatives at least sixty (60) days written notice of their intention to name a facility with appropriate information and detail. The Board of Representatives shall have the right to reject a proposed name for good cause within such sixty-day period.

(c) Notwithstanding section (a) above, proposals to name the Stamford Animal Control and Care Center, or any portion thereof, shall be exempt from compliance with this section, and shall also be exempt from compliance with Section 21-2 and Section 21-3(A) and (B). Stamford Helping Paws, a 501(c)(3) organization which exists to raise money for the Stamford Animal Control and Care Center, shall be authorized to propose naming the Stamford Animal Control and Care Center, or any portion thereof, unless and until its organizational purpose changes. Stamford Helping Paws shall give the Board of Representatives at least sixty (60) days written notice of its intent to name the Stamford Animal Control and Care Center, or any portion thereof, with appropriate information and detail. The Board of Representatives shall have the right to reject a proposed name for good cause within such sixty-day period.

(d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Bartlett Arboretum Association, Inc. a qualified 501(c)(3) charitable organization, in relation to its assumption of substantial responsibility for the operation of Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens pursuant to an agreement between it and the city, shall be exempted from compliance with this section as of the effective date of such Agreement, until the termination date of

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said Agreement or the date of termination of any extension thereof, or the date of termination thereof for any other reason. Bartlett Arboretum Association, Inc. shall give the Board of Representatives at least sixty (60) days written notice of their intention to name a facility with appropriate information and detail. The Board of Representatives shall have the right to reject a proposed name for good cause within such sixty-day period.

### ARTICLE II. - GUIDELINES FOR NAMING AND RENAMING OF STREETS, PARKS AND FACILITIES

#### Sec. 21-2. - General rule.

The public policy for the city shall be that, when possible, the names of city streets, parks and facilities, streets within a subdivision or portions thereof shall be selected by using geographic or historic characteristics that are reasonably relevant to either the type of facility or portion thereof or the location of such street, park or facility within the city.

#### Sec. 21-3. - Specific guidelines.

The following guidelines and standards are hereby adopted with reference to naming and renaming of city streets, parks and facilities, streets within a subdivision or portions thereof:

- A. No city street, park or facility, street within a subdivision or portion thereof shall be named for any racial, ethnic or religious group or denomination.
- B. No city street, park or facility, street within a subdivision or portion thereof shall be named to memorialize any person unless such person has been deceased for more than six months prior to the submission of such proposal and only after a specific finding by the Board of Representatives that either no suitable geographic or historic name for such street, park, facility or street within a subdivision or portion thereof exists or that such person has contributed substantially to the establishment of such street, park or facility or because of such person's contributions to the entire community. Upon a showing of good cause, the Board of Representatives may waive any of the aforementioned requirements by a resolution of 2/33/4 of the entire Board.
- C. No city street, park or facility or street within a subdivision or portion thereof shall be named in an arbitrary or capricious manner nor shall it be named in any manner which would tend to confuse the public or impede traffic.
- D. No city street shall be renamed unless a petition has been submitted to the City in favor of the proposed naming, containing the signatures of at least three fourths (3/4 ) of the record owners of the properties on such city street or segment thereof.
- E. No city street shall be renamed without the Board of Representatives holding a Public Hearing on such name change.

**Commented [ 1]:** This change is consistent with the language in Article III Sec. 21-5 (6).

**Commented [ 2]:** Since change a street name changes a property's address the threshold should be greater than the addition of a commemorative name.

**Commented [ 3]:** This would only be in force a name change, not the naming of a new street.

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**D-F.** Approval of any such street name change shall be by three-quarters (¾) of the members of the Board of Representatives present and voting.

**E-G.** No city street shall be given a name which is the same as or similar to the name of any existing street within the city unless either of such streets may be reasonably deemed an extension of the other. For the purposes of this article, streets with the same name or a similar name but which differ in such secondary nomenclature as the designation "road," "street," "avenue," "circle," "place," "drive," "lane," "court," "east," "west," "north" or "south" are deemed to have the same names.

**F-H.** The name of any street within the city or any park, facility, street within a subdivision or portion thereof existing at the time of adoption of this article shall not be affected hereby so long as such street remains dedicated to the public or such park or facility is maintained and used for public purposes.

**G-L.** Each property shall have a legal address, which is that address assigned by the Director of Operations or designee. Each legal address shall be a numbered address on a recognized city street, as listed in the City Book of accepted and unaccepted streets, as it may be amended from time to time. Such legal address shall be used for the delivery of all city services.

### ARTICLE III. - COMMEMORATIVE NAMING OF STREETS

#### Sec. 21-4. - General rule.

The public policy for the city shall be that commemorative signs or vanity signs on city streets or segments thereof shall only be installed in recognition of individuals who have contributed significant accomplishments to the City of Stamford or a community within the city. Where possible, the location of any such commemorative signs shall be reasonably related to the individual and the accomplishments being recognized.

#### Sec. 21-5. - Specific guidelines.

The following guidelines and standards are hereby adopted with reference to placing commemorative or vanity signs on city streets as an honor:

- (1) No commemorative or vanity sign shall be placed on a city street or segment thereof to recognize any person unless a petition has been submitted to the City in favor of the proposed naming, containing the signatures of at least two-thirds ( 2/3 ) of the record owners of the properties on such city street or segment thereof.
- (2) No commemorative or vanity sign shall be placed on a city street or segment thereof to recognize any person unless there has been a specific finding by the Board of Representatives that such person has contributed significant accomplishments to the City of Stamford or a community within the city.
- (3) No commemorative or vanity sign shall be placed on a city street or segment thereof to recognize any person unless that person shall have been a resident of the City of Stamford for at least ten (10) years.

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- (4) No commemorative or vanity sign shall be placed on a city street in any manner which would tend to confuse the public or impede traffic.
- (5) No more than one (1) commemorative or vanity sign shall be placed on any city street.
- (6) Approval of any such commemorative or vanity sign shall be by three-quarters ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of the members of the Board of Representatives present and voting.
- (7) Approval of any commemorative or vanity sign shall expire twenty-five (25) years after approval by the Board of Representatives and may only be renewed for an additional twenty-five (25) year period upon approval by three-quarters ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of the members of the Board of Representatives present and voting.

Sec. 21-6. - No effect on legal name.

In no way shall a commemorative or vanity sign affect the legal name of any street or the legal address of any property, which shall be used for the delivery of all city services.