



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Gloria DePina, Chair

Matthew Quinones, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center,
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford CT

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair DePina, Vice Chair Quinones and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Caterbone, Coppola, Kolenberg and Zelinsky. Absent or excused were Reps. Giraldo and Moore. Also present were Reps. Fedeli and Ryan; Dana Lee, Law Department; Assistant Chief Wuennemann, SPD; Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations and several members of the public.

Vice Chair Quinones called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. PS29.062	ORDINANCE <u>for publication</u> ; Process For Food Truck Vendors To Request And Obtain Permission To Sell Food and Beverages in Stamford, and the Enforcement Procedures. 03/28/16 – Submitted by Reps. Quinones and DePina 04/11/16 – Held at Steering 06/13/16 – Held at Steering 07/21/16 – Held by Committee	Held 7-0-0

Vice Chair Quinones explained that this item is the outgrowth of a review item in August, 2015 and the subsequent creation of a committee which included the administration, the police department, food truck owners and restaurant owners, to work on the issues of food trucks.

Mr. Lee, Chief Wuennemann and Mr. Orgera discussed the proposed ordinance with the Committee as follows:

- The ordinance addresses several issues raised in the committee meetings, including: fair promotion of food truck industry; protection of brick and mortar restaurants, citizen safety; police enforcement; and public welfare
- The ordinance is based upon the general street vendor ordinance (Code §179, Article I) and food truck ordinances from other municipalities

¹ Video Time Stamp 00:00:14

- This ordinance relates specifically to the sale of food by street vendors
- The ordinance creates a Food Truck Committee (“FTC”) with the primary duty of permitting food trucks (this takes the responsibility away from Cashiering)
- The FTC will enhance communications among the various departments with an interest in food trucks
- The FTC can create prohibited locations within the City and Designated Food Truck Areas near such prohibited locations
- It is more flexible to allow the FTC to address situations than to put all of the guidelines in the ordinance
- The ordinance requires:
 - all food truck business activity to be conducted from the curbside
 - Waste disposal containers and cleanup within 15 feet of the truck
 - No amplified music between 9 pm and 3 am
 - No operations within 100 feet of an open brick and mortar restaurant
 - A criminal background check of the vendor
- The ordinance does not impose any new fees
- The current street vendor ordinance also requires a background check, the check is because the City is responsible for the safety of streets and sidewalks
- The background check language needs to be clarified to not penalize someone who is acquitted
- The ordinance applies to anyone selling on a public street, even if parked on private property and using the public street/sidewalk to sell
- There is an additional permit for selling within a park, issued by the Parks Department; these permits are expensive and restrictive
- The zoning regulations would address the parking of the food vendor trucks in residential areas
- State law gives the City the authority to regulate this activity
- There is no appeal process if a permit is revoked

Mr. Lee will revise the ordinance in light of suggestions made by the Committee and provide the committee with a new draft prior to the next meeting.

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. DePina, Quinones, Adams, Caterbone, Coppola, Kolenberg and Zelinsky in favor).

- ². [PS29.068](#) ORDINANCE for publication; Amending Chapter 164, Noise, Section 164-5, Noise Levels, Concerning Noise Generated by Refuse Collection Activities of the City of Stamford. **Approved 6-0-1**
08/01/16 – Submitted by Rep. Quinones

Vice Chair Quinones explained that this proposed change is so that the City’s garbage collection procedures are consistent with the ordinance. The City must begin to collect garbage at 4 a.m. in order to not disrupt traffic or create a safety hazard (such as when children are walking to school).

Mr. Orgera noted that the City does collect garbage until 8 p.m., particularly since some homeowners have medical exemptions which permit them not to bring their garbage containers to the front curb

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Committee members discussed the possibility of extending this exemption to private carters and the problem of enforcing the ordinance against private carters.

A motion to approve this ordinance for publication was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. DePina, Quinones, Adams, Caterbone, Kolenberg and Zelinsky in favor; Rep. Coppola abstaining).

- ³3. [PS29.067](#) REVIEW; Matter of Pollution in the City of Stamford. **Report Made**
07/15/16 – Submitted by Rep. Zelinsky

Rep. Zelinsky noted that there were articles in the Stamford Advocate on June 27th, August 14th and August 15th regarding the pollution level in Fairfield County. He received the following suggestions from the American Lung Association:

- Use the City website to announce when the air quality is bad and people should restrict outdoor activity
- Enforce idling laws and use no idling signs
- Encourage carpooling and public transportation
- Provide more electric car charging stations
- Lower heat and raise AC temperatures in government buildings
- Encourage rooftop gardens, plants or vegetables

He also believes the City should purchase air quality monitors

Vice Chair Quinones stated that this item should be discussed with the incoming Health Director.

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 3-4-0 (Reps. Quinones, Kolenberg and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. DePina, Adams, Caterbone, and Coppola opposed).

Vice Chair Quinones adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Quinones, Vice Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).

³ Video Time Stamp 01:02:45